Four-year cycle
2017-2020

Questionnaire
GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Region: State Party:
   REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES

2. Submission of previous national reports
   Yes No
   2.1. 2013-2016 cycle

3. Actors involved in the preparation of the national report
   3.1. Government institutions responsible for the protection of cultural property
   3.2. National Commission for UNESCO
   3.3. Military expert
   3.4. Independent experts
       If other actors have been involved, please indicate them

4. National Focal Point

According to paragraph 120 of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Second Protocol: "Unless a Party requests otherwise, the presumed focal point would be its Permanent Delegation to UNESCO." If you do not consider the Permanent Delegation as a focal point, you are invited to provide the Secretariat with the name and address of a national focal point who will receive all official documents and correspondence related to the national periodic reporting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution: Department of Culture</th>
<th>Email: <a href="mailto:cecile.kalebi@gov.sc">cecile.kalebi@gov.sc</a></th>
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</thead>
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<td>Tel.: +248 4321333 / 2722666</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I. The Hague Convention of 1954

1. Article 3 - Safeguarding of cultural property

This Article provides for the obligation of the High Contracting Parties to adopt relevant peacetime safeguarding measures against the foreseeable effects of an armed conflict.

- Has your State undertaken such measures?

   YES: ☑️ NO: ☐

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

The safeguarding of cultural property is managed by various institutions within the Department of Culture. This includes the National Museums, National Archives, the Cultural Property and Research Unit, the National Arts Council (NAC), the Seychelles Heritage Foundation (SHF) and the National Heritage Research and Protection Section (NHRPS) which is the executive arm of the National Monuments Board.

Safeguarding measures includes ensuring that provisions are made for the safeguarding of cultural properties in the national culture policy, legislations and strategic plans; conducting and regularly updating inventories/databases of holdings, collections, monuments, sites and other cultural properties; acquisition and maintenance of storage facilities; cleaning of documents; digitisation programs; ensuring back-ups of digitized documents, ensuring fire preparedness of cultural infrastructure and staff; regular maintenance of cultural infrastructure; training of staff; continuously increasing the budget allocated to the monthly upkeeping and maintenance of monuments and cultural heritage sites; and preventing the illicit trafficking of cultural goods.

Preparedness for safeguarding of cultural property in the event of an emergency is not governed by a specific legislation in Seychelles but provisions have been made in the Disaster Risk Management Act of 2014, the National Disaster Risk Management Policy of 2014 and the Seychelles National Integrated Emergency Management Plan of 2019, to cover the protection of all National assets including public and private property, during times of national emergency or disaster.

Other national legislations that makes provisions for the safeguarding of cultural property includes the National Monuments Act (Amendment Act ) of 1991, the National Library Services Act of 2010, the Seychelles Heritage Foundation Act of 2006, the Seychelles Archives Act of 1964 and the National Arts Council of Seychelles Act of 1990. The National Monuments and National Archives Acts are currently being reviewed to make them more comprehensive and able to meet emerging needs and challenges. The National Museums is also in the process of finalizing an action plan for the Museum’s Collection in the event of an emergency.

The Seychelles armed forces, the Seychelles People Defence Force (SPDF) are one of the key agencies that participate in emergency operations at the national level. They are classified as a category 1 responder and are required to put in place emergency plans and cooperate with other local responders to enhance coordination and efficiency amongst other responsibilities.
2. Article 6 - Use of the distinctive emblem for the marking of cultural property

The 1954 Hague Convention creates a distinctive emblem for the exclusive marking of cultural property, with a view to ensure its recognition, particularly in the event of armed conflict. The marking of cultural property is one of the preparatory measures that can be undertaken in time of peace.

- Has your State marked cultural property by using the distinctive emblem of the Convention?

YES: ☐ NO: ☒

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

The Republic of Seychelles has to date not marked any of its cultural properties with the distinctive emblem specified in the convention.

3. Article 7 - Military measures

This Article provides for the obligations of the High Contracting Parties with regard to the introduction in their regulations or instructions for the use of their armed forces of provisions to ensure compliance with the Convention, as well as to plan or establish within their armed forces, services or specialist personnel whose purpose will be to secure respect for cultural property and to co-operate with the civilian authorities responsible for safeguarding such property. These are obligations to be implemented in time of peace.

- Has your State introduced provisions in the regulations and instructions for your armed forces to ensure compliance with the Convention?

YES: ☐ NO: ☒

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

As a peaceful country with a policy of 'Friend to all, enemy to none', the focus of military operations has remained on the protection of properties with tactical importance. The protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict and preparedness in times of peace has not been integrated into military training, operations, regulations and manuals. This is primarily the result of a lack of military training and education on the convention and its implications on the ground both nationally and internationally (through the participation of the military in peacekeeping and peace support operations of the EASF, SADC, AU and UN).

- Has your State established services or designated specialist personnel within your armed forces to ensure respect for cultural property?

YES: ☐ NO: ☒

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.
The Republic of Seychelles has so far not established any special services or appointed specialist personnel within its armed forces to specifically ensure the respect for cultural property.

4. Article 25 - Dissemination of the Convention

Regulations relating to the protection of cultural property in time of armed conflict must be included into the programmes of military and, if possible, civilian training. The objective is to ensure that the principles of the Convention are known by the whole population, especially the armed forces and personnel engaged in the protection of cultural property.

- **Has your State disseminated the provisions of the Convention within the armed forces as well as among target groups and the general public?**

  YES: [ ]  NO: [X]

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

To date, the provisions of the convention has not been disseminated within our armed forces or amongst the general public.

The convention was discussed, albeit briefly at the 'Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Goods' workshop organized by the National Museums and the International Council of Museums (ICOM) in collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Office for East Africa. The three day capacity-building workshop which was held from the 24th to 26th July 2019 in Seychelles, provided a networking platform for stakeholders which included culture, heritage and arts professionals in both the public and private sector as well as police and customs officials amongst others.

The Government of Seychelles recognizes the need to translate the text of the Convention into the Seychellois creole language, to ensure accessibility to all its citizen, although French and English are the other two national languages.

5. Article 26(1) - Official translations

This Article requires that the High Contracting Parties communicate to one another, through the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the official translations of the present Convention and of the Regulations for its execution:

**Please submit a copy / copies of such translation(s), in electronic format, if possible, to the Secretariat**

Please annex an electronic copy of your translation(s) to this report:

[Attach the document]

6. Article 28 - Sanctions

This Article provides for the obligations of the High Contracting Parties to take, within the framework of their ordinary criminal jurisdiction, all necessary steps to prosecute and impose
penal or disciplinary sanctions upon those persons, regardless of their nationality, who commit
or order a breach of the Convention.

• Has your State **introduced in your domestic legislation** all necessary steps to prosecute
  and impose penal or disciplinary sanctions against a conduct contrary to the obligations
  set out in the Convention?

YES: ☐ NO: ☒

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model
report.

Not all necessary steps have been taken to date.

The Department of Culture have recognized that the existing culture and heritage
legislations are limited in their provisions and to remedy the situation, relevant legislations
are currently being reviewed to make them more in line with emerging needs and
challenges.

The existing cultural and heritage legislations in particular the National Monuments
(Amendment) Act of 1991 and the National Archives Act of 1964 makes provisions for the
safeguarding of cultural property including criminal offences and corresponding penalties.
According to the National Monuments Act, ‘no person shall, without the written consent of
the Board (National Monuments Board), make any alteration to, destroy or damage; move
from its original site or export from Seychelles; or carry out any cultivation or other work
so as to cause or be likely to cause injury or disturbance to any ancient monument,
national monument or relic, or any part thereof. Any person who defaces, damages or
destroys any tablet erected by the Board under section 4(i); contravenes section 6, 7 or 8;
in any application to the Board for its consent under section 7 or 8, makes any statement
which is false in any material respect or supplies any photograph or drawing which is false
in any material particular, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of R.5, 000 and
to imprisonment for 2 years. If any person is convicted of an offence under the Monuments
Act which has resulted in any damage to, destruction or removal of, any ancient
monument, national monument or relic or any part thereof or any tablet erected by the
Board, the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed, order him to pay to the Board
such sum as the court may determine for the purpose of repairing such damage or for the
value of any article or thing removed or destroyed and may, in the case of any article which
has been removed and which is still in the possession of any person, order such person
to restore such article to the Board’.

Under the National Archives Act, ‘no person may reproduce the whole or any part of the
contents of any public archives or records which are in the archives custody of the
Seychelles Archives, other than those which may be prescribed, without the written
permission of Government and when such permission has been granted only in strict
compliance with any conditions or limitations which Government may impose. Any person
who contravenes these provisions or fails to comply with any conditions or limitations
therein referred to shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding five
hundred rupees’.
II. Resolution II of the 1954 Conference

- Has your State established a National Advisory Committee in accordance with the wish expressed by the Intergovernmental Conference (1954) in Resolution II?

  YES:  □  NO:  ❌

  You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

- In the event that you have established a National Advisory Committee, has it been incorporated into a national commission for the implementation of international humanitarian law?

  YES:  □  NO:  □

  You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.
III. 1954 (First) Protocol
[To be completed only by the High Contracting Parties to the 1954 Protocol]

The main purpose of the 1954 Protocol is the protection of cultural property in or stemming from occupied territory.

- Has your State undertaken measures to implement these international obligations, including the adoption of relevant legislation?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.
IV. The 1999 Second Protocol
[To be filled in only by the Parties to the 1999 Second Protocol]

The 1999 Second Protocol supplements the 1954 Hague Convention in many respects. In case the information has already been presented in the context of questions relating to the 1954 Hague Convention, you can directly refer to it.

1. Article 5 - Safeguarding of cultural property

Article 5 of the Second Protocol supplements Article 3 of the Hague Convention by providing concrete examples of preparatory measures to be undertaken in time of peace, such as the preparation of inventories of cultural property or the designation of competent authorities responsible for the safeguarding of cultural property.

- Has your State undertaken such measures?

YES: [ ] NO: [ ]

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

2. Article 9 - Protection of cultural property in occupied territory

Article 9 of the Second Protocol complements Article 5 of the 1954 Hague Convention by imposing specific obligations on the occupying power. Paragraph 119 of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the 1999 Second Protocol requires Parties that are occupying powers to provide information in their national reports on how the provisions relating to the protection of cultural property in occupied territory are being respected.

- Do you ensure compliance with the provisions relating to the protection of cultural property in the context of military occupation?

YES: [ ] NO: [ ] Not applicable: [ ]

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

3. Article 10 - Enhanced protection


- Do you intend to request the granting of enhanced protection for cultural property within the next four years or, if appropriate, to submit a national tentative list under Article 11 (1) of the 1999 Second Protocol?

YES: [ ] NO: [ ]
MONITORING OF CULTURAL PROPERTY UNDER ENHANCED PROTECTION

[If some cultural property in your State benefits from enhanced protection, please also fill in this part of the questionnaire].

The benefit of enhanced protection implies the continued fulfilment of the conditions provided for in Article 10 of the 1999 Second Protocol.

- Is a specific mechanism for monitoring cultural property under enhanced protection in place? For example, are the measures undertaken to ensure the highest level of protection periodically reviewed to ensure their full adequacy in all circumstances?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

Pursuant to paragraph 94 of the Guidelines, a distinctive emblem is created for the exclusive marking of cultural property under enhanced protection.

- Has your State marked with the distinctive emblem cultural property under enhanced protection?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

4. Article 15 - Serious violations of the 1999 Second Protocol

“Article 15 obliges Parties to establish as criminal offences in their domestic law offences constituting serious breaches of the Second Protocol, and to make such offences punishable by appropriate penalties”.

- Has your State implemented this obligation? If yes, what measures have been undertaken?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

5. Article 16 - Jurisdiction
Pursuant to Article 16 of the Second Protocol, the Parties shall take the necessary legislative measures to establish their jurisdiction over offences set forth in Article 15 of the 1999 Second Protocol in certain cases.

- *Has your State implemented this obligation?* If yes, what measures have been undertaken to grant jurisdiction to your courts over serious offences under the 1999 Second Protocol?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

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6. **Article 21 - Measures regarding other violations**

The 1999 Second Protocol obliges Parties to adopt legislative, administrative or disciplinary measures as may be necessary to suppress certain other violations of the Second Protocol:

a. any use of cultural property in violation of the 1954 Hague Convention or the 1999 Second Protocol;

b. any illicit export, other removal or transfer of ownership of cultural property from occupied territory in violation of the 1954 Hague Convention or the 1999 Second Protocol.

- *Has your State implemented such measures?*

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.

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7. **Article 30 - Dissemination**

Article 30 of the Second Protocol complements Articles 7 and 25 of the 1954 Hague Convention. In this regard, Article 30 it asks the Parties, to endeavour by appropriate means, and in particular by educational and information programmes, to strengthen appreciation and respect for cultural property by their entire population, to ensure the dissemination of the 1999 Second Protocol, and to incorporate in their military regulations’ guidelines and instructions for the protection of cultural property.

- *Has your State disseminated the provisions of the Convention and the Second Protocol within the armed forces as well as to target groups and the general public?*

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.
8. Article 33 – Assistance of UNESCO

Pursuant to paragraph 151 of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the 1999 Second Protocol, the Parties having activities at bilateral or multilateral level are invited to inform the Committee, in their periodic reports, of their activities in order to share their experiences or good practices.

- Has your State shared, in particular through the Secretariat of UNESCO, your experiences and good practices in implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and / or its Protocols?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐

You can complete your answer below, taking into account the guidelines in the model report.


Pursuant to Article 37 of the Second Protocol, the Parties shall translate the 1999 Second Protocol into their official language(s) of their countries and shall communicate these official translations to the Director-General.

Please submit a copy / copies of such translation(s), in electronic format, if possible, to the Secretariat.

Please annex an electronic copy of your translation(s) to this report.
V. Other questions relating to the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols

1. Ratification of / accession to other international treaties having provisions of the protection of cultural property

- Can you indicate the other international instruments to which your State is a party?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International instruments</th>
<th>Ratification/Accession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the World, Cultural and Natural Heritage</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>Ratification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 UNESCO Convention for the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Protocol (I) to the Geneva Conventions, 1977</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Protocol (II) to the Geneva Conventions, 1977</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Protocol (III) to the Geneva Conventions, 2005</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. National practice relating to the implementation of the Hague Convention and its two Protocols

The Secretariat would be grateful if you could annex a copy of the following documents in French and/or English:

- Relevant civil and military administrative regulations:
  
  PDF Document  Website

- National laws relating to the protection of cultural property, as well as criminal provisions adopted in the context of the implementation of Article 28 of the Hague Convention and Articles 15, 16 and 21 of the Second Protocol, and case law relating to the protection of cultural property.

  PDF Document  Website
Documents relating to awareness-raising activities (seminar programme, brochures, etc.), as well as any other document (legislative, judicial or administrative) relevant to the dissemination of the 1954 Hague Convention and its 1999 Second Protocol.

3. Effectiveness of cooperation mechanisms at the national level

The implementation of the Hague Convention and its two Protocols requires cooperation at the national level between the various authorities (civil, military, etc.). Can you assess the degree of cooperation, at the national level, in your State?

- There is no cooperation between the different authorities
- There is limited cooperation between the different authorities
- There is cooperation between the various authorities, but there are still improvements to be made
- There is a perfectly functional cooperation between the different authorities
- Other (specify)
VI. Self-assessment forms

In order to reflect in the synthesis document of the national reports the status of implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention and its 1999 Second Protocol in key areas, please fill in the two tables below.

1. Assessment of the degree of implementation
   [To do this, please use the following rating scale]

   1. Not at all implemented;
   2. Partially implemented and the process is at standstill;
   3. Partially implemented, the process following its course; and
   4. Fully implemented.

| Implementation of the safeguarding obligation through the adoption of preparatory measures | 3 |
| Military training on regulations for the protection of cultural property | 1 |
| Use of the distinctive emblem to mark cultural property | 1 |
| Implementation of the obligation to disseminate, through the implementation of awareness-raising activities for target audiences | 1 |
| Adoption of relevant criminal legislation | 3 |
| Establishments of a monitoring system for cultural property under enhanced protection at the national level | ........ |

2. Assessment of the difficulties encountered
   [To do this, please use the following rating scale]

   1. Difficulties are encountered, but there are no plans to seek technical assistance from the UNESCO Secretariat;
   2. Difficulties are encountered, nevertheless, it is planned to make use of the technical assistance of the UNESCO Secretariat;
   3. Difficulties were encountered, but thanks to the technical assistance of the Secretariat they could be resolved;
   4. Difficulties were encountered at first, but they turned into challenges that were overcome; and
   5. No difficulties were encountered.

| Implementation of the safeguarding obligation through the adoption of preparatory measures | 2 |
| Military training on regulations for the protection of cultural property | ........ |
| Use of the distinctive emblem to mark cultural property | ........ |
| Implementation of the obligation to disseminate, through the implementation of awareness-raising activities for target audiences | ........ |
| Adoption of relevant criminal legislation | 2 |
| Establishments of a monitoring system for cultural property under enhanced protection at the national level | ........ |
VII. Enhanced protection mechanism – Opinion survey

Pursuant to Chapter 3 of the 1999 Second Protocol, enhanced protection is granted by the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict if three criteria are cumulatively met:

- Cultural property is of the greatest importance to humanity;
- Cultural property is protected by adequate domestic, legal and administrative measures recognising its exceptional cultural and historical value and ensuring the highest level of protection; and
- Cultural property must not be used for military purposes or to shield military sites. And the Party which has control over the cultural property has to make a declaration confirming that it will not be used for military purposes or to shield military sites.

As these conditions are set out in an international treaty, their interpretation cannot be made independently of State practice, which is of fundamental importance under international treaty law. Therefore, this national report is an opportunity for the national authorities of the Parties to express their views on the conditions under which enhanced protection is granted.

For each of the conditions set out in Article 10 of the Second Protocol, please answer the following questions, taking into consideration the relevant paragraphs of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Second Protocol.

- Article 10, paragraph (a) - "The greatest importance for humanity"

Please list the main factors to be undertaken into consideration in determining whether a cultural property is of the greatest importance for humanity?

There is a need to redefine the phrase 'greatest importance to humanity'. African countries should be allowed to define the importance of their own cultural property.

- Article 10, paragraph (b) - "The highest level of protection"

Please mention the national authorities to be consulted in determining the choice of measures to be adopted to ensure the highest level of protection for a cultural property for which enhanced protection is requested. What measures can ensure the highest level of protection?

It is covered.

- Article 10, paragraph (c) - "Not-used for military purposes"

Please mention the national authorities to be consulted in order to take the decision not to use the proposed cultural property for granting enhanced protection for military purposes or to shield military sites?

This is the ideal, but it is questionable whether this is applicable on the ground.

By: Mrs. Sophia Rosalie, Senior Policy Analyst, Department of Culture, Seychelles.
Background

Seychelles acceded the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in 2004 and is to date not party to the 1954 First protocol or the 1999 Second protocol. So far, the state party has not submitted any periodic reports on the implementation of the convention and has thus deemed it necessary to complete and submit the questionnaire for the four year cycle 2017-2020 which will allow it to assess its strengths and shortcomings. Information gathered through the consultation process with stakeholders will accordingly guide decision-making in regards to actions that needs to be taken for the state party to meet its obligations under the convention in question.

The national report was completed by Mrs. Sophia Rosalie, Senior Policy Analyst within the Department of Culture in consultation with stakeholders in the culture, heritage, arts, military and the risk and disaster management sectors.

Research Methods

The research started off with a review of documents including cultural and heritage policies and legislations. The researcher conducted only one, one on one interview. This particular interview was with Mrs. Sybil Labrosse, the Director of the Cultural Property and Research Unit. However, after a spike in Covid-19 cases, plans for more one on one interviews were abandoned. The research method going forward was guided by the fact that the researcher established early on that the majority of informants were not familiar with the convention and also the information that was requested of them required some degree of research on their part to ensure the accuracy of information provided. Even though virtual interviews were an option, the researcher thus decided that it will be more efficient to email them specific open ended questions.

All informants were contacted by phone first so that they were briefed on the report and as to where do their respective institution come in, their role and in general what they will be questioned about. After that initial contact, they were sent questions through emails for record purposes. Short deadlines were set for response. Follow up questions were made where necessary, either over the phone or through emails. See Annex 1 for the list of informants and their contact details.
6th May 2021: Interview with the Director of the Cultural Property and Research Unit, Mrs. Sybil Labrosse (seated on the right)

The draft report was completed based on the collected information and sent to all the stakeholders for their input. No suggestions for revisions were made. The draft report was then submitted to the Principal Secretary for Culture; Ms. Cecile Kalebi and the Seychelles National Commission for UNESCO. The final report was validated during a meeting held on Tuesday 8th June 2021. See Annex 2 for the list of participants present at the validation meeting.
8th June 2021: Validation meeting
Main Findings

Research for the national report has established that although a lot has been done for the safeguarding of cultural properties in Seychelles by various cultural institutions over the years; inventories, maintenance of cultural infrastructures, fire preparedness, digitization programs, training of staff, acquisition of storage facilities, provisions made for the safeguarding of cultural heritage in cultural policy, legislation and strategic plans, our other obligations under the convention have been neglected. For example, although provisions for the safeguarding of ‘national assets’ which includes cultural properties of national interest in the event of a national emergency have been made under the 2014 Disaster Risk Management Act and policy as well as the Seychelles National Integrated Emergency Management Plan of 2019, nothing much has been done specifically for the protection of cultural properties in the event of a national emergency let alone preparedness in the event of an armed conflict.

This is assumingly based on the premise that Seychelles is a peaceful country and the event of an armed conflict is next to none, thus preparedness for armed conflict fades in importance compared to other national priorities. Noticeably, the military was unaware that Seychelles was party to the convention and that we thus have certain obligations. Lack of awareness and education on the convention can be considered as the main factor behind Seychelles shortcomings in the implementation of the convention.

See Annex 3: List of inventories held by each cultural institutions.

See Annex 4: Safeguarding and emergency measures according to cultural institutions.

Recommendations

1. An advisory committee needs to be set up to ensure coordination between relevant institutions for the implementation of the convention.
2. There is a need for more provisions in national policies, legislations and strategies to ensure preparedness in regards to the protection of cultural property in the event of an emergency. This includes periodical revisions of national emergency preparedness plans to ensure adequate protection of cultural properties.
3. Relevant institutions especially the armed forces needs to be educated on the provisions of the conventions so that it can be incorporated in their respective programs and action plans.
4. Specialized training for both the armed forces and cultural property officers in emergency preparedness.
5. Dissemination and sensitization programs for the general public including decision makers and technicians in relevant sectors, the armed forces and the youth on the provisions of the convention.
### Annex 1: List of informants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Informant</th>
<th>Institution / Designation</th>
<th>Contact Details (email/ phone)</th>
<th>Date of first contact</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Records kept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>6th May 2021</td>
<td>One on one interview</td>
<td>Audio recording / Photo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Allain Pierre</td>
<td>Seychelles People Defence Forces (SPDF)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alain.pierre@spdf.sc">alain.pierre@spdf.sc</a> / + 248 4224070</td>
<td>6th May 2021</td>
<td>Phone call / Open – ended questions sent via email</td>
<td>Emails</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Berthilda Walter</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:berthilda.walter@gov.sc">berthilda.walter@gov.sc</a> / +248 2724954</td>
<td>14th May 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Ann Mary Roberts</td>
<td>Principal Librarian National Library Department of Culture</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annmaryrobert@yahoo.com">annmaryrobert@yahoo.com</a> / +248 2722671</td>
<td>14th May 2021</td>
<td>Phone call / Open – ended questions sent via email</td>
<td>Emails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Beryl Ondiek</td>
<td>Director National Museums Department of Culture</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bondiek@gov.sc">bondiek@gov.sc</a> / +248 2724956</td>
<td>14th May 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Terry Nibourette</td>
<td>Act. Director National Archives Department of Culture</td>
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<td>14th May 2021</td>
<td>Phone call / Open – ended questions sent via email</td>
<td>Emails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Cheryl Bristol</td>
<td>Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM)</td>
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<td>18th May 2021</td>
<td>Phone call / Open – ended questions sent via email</td>
<td>Emails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Jimmy Savy</td>
<td>CEO National Arts Council (NAC)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ceo@naceychelles.sc">ceo@naceychelles.sc</a> / + 248 2722227</td>
<td>18th May 2021</td>
<td>Phone call / Open – ended questions sent via email</td>
<td>Emails</td>
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</tbody>
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Annex 2: Participants in the validation meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of participant</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
Annex 3: List of inventories according to institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Heritage Research and Protection Section (NHRPS)</th>
<th>National Archives</th>
<th>National Library</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inventories</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of Traditional Architecture of Victoria, Seychelles</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of cultural heritage and natural heritage sites of the southern and western districts of Mahé</td>
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<td>• Inventory of cultural heritage and natural heritage sites of the northern of Mahé</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of cultural heritage and natural heritage sites of the eastern districts of Mahé</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of cultural heritage and natural heritage sites of the La Digue Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of cultural heritage and natural heritage sites of the Praslin island</td>
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<td>• The markets of Seychelles Inventory</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Seychelles National Intangible Cultural Heritage inventory – ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of Bel Air cemetery</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of greater Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Inventory of cultural heritage sites of Silhouette Island.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The National Archives holdings includes:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category A: Official Records of French period of administration up to 1811</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category B: Official correspondence books for period of British Administration after 1811</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category C: Selected official records from unbound files of British period of administration after 1867</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category D: Printed publications of the government of Seychelles</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category E: Civil status records</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category F: Library of unofficial books and publications relating to history and natural history of Seychelles (no longer falls under the National Archives as it has been transferred to the Reference unit at the National Library).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category G: Newspapers and Journals printed in Seychelles</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category H: Maps and Plans</td>
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<td>• Category I: Tape recordings and records</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category J: Stamps and coins</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category K: Monuments section</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The Bibliographies comprised materials related to Seychelles (about Seychelles /by Seychellois /published in Seychelles). These materials are part of the National Collection of Publications named Seselwana Collection.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Recorded in Accession register and National library database all publications related to Seychelles received through legal deposit for the period 2018 to date.</td>
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</table>
National Museums

- Inventories of the Museum collection are done twice a year Jan/June every year.

- The National Arts Collection was transferred to the National Museums in 2020. An inventory of the collection is ongoing but there is a draft catalogue of the collection.

National Arts Council (NAC)

The NAC keeps an inventory of artworks which are in its building only.
Annex 4: Safeguarding and emergency measures according to cultural institutions.

National Heritage Research and Protection Section (NHRPS)

- Scanning of hard copies of documents exposed to fungus.
- Digitalizing of mono audio recordings.
- Making several backups of digitalized documents or works.
- Producing publications on various aspects of the Seychelles cultural heritage.
- Monthly up-keeping and maintenance of monuments and cultural heritage sites.

The main difficulties encountered by the NHRPS are;

- Lack of trained manpower to undertake the works more effectively.
- The Department of Culture lacks a central server that can safeguard documentation of all Cultural institutions.
- Lack of legislation for safeguarding all aspects the Seychelles cultural heritage.

National Archives

The National Archives have adopted a digital approach to safeguarding its holdings as most of its holdings can be converted into digital form. With a renovation being carried out, the institution have focused on the cleaning and scanning of its assets. The digital Archives itself can be stored in two principle locations i.e. at the National Archives and at the Department for Information Communication Technology (DICT).

As for the physical transfer of the holdings, the National Archives have some storage facilities which they are currently using albeit on a temporary basis. Unfortunately for the long term that might be a cause for concern.

The National Archives’ main constraint is funding which limits the amount of safeguarding programs (cleaning, scanning, training etc....) as well as the much needed construction of an independent, fully functional Archives.

National Museums

- Regular cleanliness drives.
- Spreading awareness around the importance of the cultural materials.
- Fire safety equipment are in place including fire detectors.
- Work is in progress to finalize an action plan for the Museum’s collection in the event of an emergency.

The main constraint for the National Museums is a lack of permanent storage facilities.
**National Arts Council (NAC)**

The art works in the NAC are protected under the Insurance of the NAC Building. As regards to private collections/galleries, individuals are encouraged to take any Insurance of their choice for their arts.

**National Library**

- Digitization programme.
- Digitizing materials forming part of the National collection of publications.
- Maintenance of National collection of publications at Ile Perseverance repository.
- Clean, collect, process and maintain all publications published in and related to Seychelles.
- Manage environmental factors (temperature, humidity level) in repository.

The main difficulties encountered by the National Library are;

- No preservation unit.
- Lack of staff with expertise in preservation techniques to carry out specific repair works on materials.
- Lack of specific tools/equipment to carry out repair works.
- Part of collection materials are fragile and have been exposed to fungus.
- No purpose built repository to store the publications.
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Establishment of the Seychelles National Library
4. Control and management
5. Appointment of head of Library etc.
6. Advisory Board
7. Functions of the Library
8. Duty of publishers etc
9. Donations
10. Offences
11. Regulation

1. This Act may be cited as the National Library Services Act.

2. In this Act —
“Board” means the Advisory Board established under section 6;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for library matters;

“the Library” means the Seychelles National Library established under section 3(1);

“library” means any other branch of the Seychelles National Library.

3. (1) There is established the Seychelles National Library which shall —

(a) provide both public and national library services;

(b) consist of a comprehensive collection of books, manuscripts, periodicals, films and other recorded matters, printed or otherwise, covering all fields of knowledge and an exhaustive collection of the national literary output.

(2) The Library shall be a national centre for reference, study and information services.

4. The Library shall be under the control and management of the Ministry responsible for library matters.

5. There shall be appointed a head of the Library and such other officers as may be necessary for the performance of duties connected with the functions of the Library.

6. (1) The Minister may appoint an Advisory Board with the responsibility for advising the Minister on such matters as the Minister may from time to time refer to the Board.

(2) The members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed for such term and on such conditions as the Minister may determine.

(3) The head of the Library shall be an *ex officio* member of the Advisory Board.
7. (1) The Library shall be responsible for the following national library services, namely —

(a) to act as the official repository of all materials published —

(i) in Seychelles;

(ii) on any aspect of Seychelles;

(iii) by any Seychellois;

(b) to coordinate bibliographical and other services including the publication of —

(i) retrospective and current national bibliographies;

(ii) selective and subject bibliographies;

(iii) reprints of works that are damaged or in danger of being permanently lost;

(c) to plan and coordinate inter-library lending;

(d) to participate in the planning and development of libraries;

(e) to provide leadership to the country’s libraries;

(f) to promote cooperation between the Library and other institutions, both national and international;

(g) to act as a centre for the exchange of publications; and

(h) to provide a focal point for linkage to international databases.
(2) The Library shall be responsible for the following public library services, namely —

(a) to provide the services of a lending library and a reference library;

(b) to establish and maintain branch libraries and regional reading centres;

(c) to provide persons with bibliographical research and other information;

(d) to provide book box and mobile library services;

(e) to provide reprographical facilities and information technological services;

(f) to compile the union catalogue;

(g) to develop a good reading habit and encourage lifelong education;

(h) to increase and develop resources of the Library and other libraries.

8. (1) For the purpose of section 7(1) (a) —

(a) a publisher of a newspaper, periodical, book or bound pamphlet, map or post card printed in Seychelles;

(b) a producer of a film, microfilm, online publication or offline electronic publication intended for sale; and

(c) a publisher or producer of a revised edition or remake of anything referred to in paragraph (a) or (b),

shall, not later than thirty days after it is published or produced, deliver or cause to be delivered three copies thereof to the head of the Library free of charge.
(2) Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than R5000 and not more than R6000.

(3) Any person or institution may give a copy of any thesis, dissertation or research paper, whether printed or not, in their possession to the Library for conservation.

9. Donations of movable and immovable property may be made to, and accepted by, the Minister for the use of the Library or any other libraries in discharging their functions under this Act.

10. (1) Any person who, in the Library or any other library open to the members of the public —

(a) behaves in a disorderly manner;

(b) uses violent, abusive or obscene language;

(c) consumes or deals in alcohol or an illicit drug;

(d) bets or gambles; or

(e) after proper warning persists in remaining therein beyond the hour fixed for the closing of the Library or other library,

to the annoyance or disturbance of any other person using the same, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than R5000 and not more than R6000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) A person —

(a) who knows that he is suffering from a notifiable disease shall —

(i) not take or cause any book to be taken from the Library or any library for his use;
(ii) use any book taken from the Library or any library;

(b) shall not permit any book which has been taken from the Library or any library and is under his control to be used by any other person known to be suffering from a notifiable disease;

(c) shall not return to the Library or any library a book which he knows to have been exposed to infection from a notifiable disease or permit any such book under his control to be so returned but shall give notice to the Library or such library that the book has been so exposed to infection.

(3) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of subsection (2) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding R5000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(4) For the purpose of subsection (2) “notifiable disease” means any disease defined as such in the Public Health Act.

(5) Any person who —

(a) removes any publication from the Library or any library without authorisation; or

(b) does not return any publication borrowed,

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than R5000 and not more than R6000.

11. (1) The Minister may make regulations for carrying out or giving effect to the objects and provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), such regulations may provide for —

(a) the terms and conditions on which the facilities of the Library and other libraries are made available to the public;
(b) the conduct of persons within the premises of the Library and other libraries;

(c) proper maintenance and protection of the property of the Library and other libraries; and

(d) charging of fees in respect of the various services provided by the Library and other libraries.

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NO SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Establishment of Seychelles Heritage Foundation
4. Objects of the Foundation
5. The Board of the Foundations
6. Meetings of the Board
7. Signification of acts of Board
8. Minister may give directions
9. Consultation of bodies with common interests
10. The funds of the Foundation
11. Accounts
12. Staff
13. Work plan
14. Annual report
15. Protection of members etc
16. Exemptions
17. Regulations

SCHEDULE
1. This Act may be cited as the Seychelles Heritage Foundation Act.

2. In this Act —

“Board” means the Board of Directors of the Foundation appointed under section 5;

“Foundation” means the Seychelles Heritage Foundation established by section 3;

“member” means a member of the Board;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for culture.

3. There is hereby established a foundation called the Seychelles Heritage Foundation which shall be a body corporate.

4. The objects of the Foundation shall be —

(a) to identify, conserve and promote the cultural heritage of Seychelles;

(b) to encourage broader public participation in activities designed to promote the cultural heritage of Seychelles;

(c) to generate the resources necessary for the achievement of the purposes of this Act and utilize them for such purposes;

(d) to manage heritage sites specified in the Schedule having regard to their value to cultural tourism;

(e) to endeavour to win international support for activities designed to promote the heritage of Seychelles;

(f) to promote research into and education on various aspects of the national heritage; and

(g) to advise the Government on matters relating to the cultural heritage of Seychelles.

5.(1) The affairs of the Foundation shall be administered by a Board of Directors.

(2) The Board shall consist of a chairperson and 8 other members appointed by the President for such term not exceeding 3 years as the President may determine.

6.(1) The Board shall meet at such times and places as may be determined by the chairperson.

(2) A quorum of a meeting of the Board shall be 5 members.

(3) At any meeting of the Board at which the chairperson is not present, the members present shall elect one of their number to be the chairperson of that meeting.
Decisions of the Board shall be taken on a majority of the votes of the members present and voting but on an equality of votes the chairperson shall have a casting vote.

Subject to the preceding provisions of this section, the Board may regulate its own procedure.

All deeds, acts and documents of the Foundation shall be signed by the chairperson and one other member of the Board.

The Minister may give the Board general directions in writing relating to the performance of functions by the Board and the Board shall comply with such directions.

The Board shall where necessary act in consultation with other organisations involved in activities connected with the cultural heritage and, in particular, with the National Monuments Board.

The funds of the Foundation shall consist of —

(a) monies voted by the National Assembly for the use of the Foundation;
(b) monies accruing to the Foundation from its activities;
(c) monies received by the Foundation by way of loans, gifts, donations or grants.

The funds of the Foundation shall be applied in defraying the expenses of the Foundation connected with the objects of the Foundation and payment of remuneration of members and staff of the Foundation and repayment of any debt.

The Board shall cause to be kept proper accounts and books and records in relation thereto in which shall be recorded all the financial transactions of the Foundation.

The financial year of the Foundation shall be from 1st January in any year to 31st December next following.

The accounts of the Foundation shall be audited by the Auditor General in accordance with article 158 of the Constitution.

The Foundation shall appoint a chief executive officer of the Foundation and other staff on such terms and conditions as it may determine.

The Minister may, at the request of the Board, release officers of the Ministry on secondment to the Foundation on such terms and conditions as may be agreed with such officers and the Foundation.

The Board shall draw up a plan of work for each financial year and obtain the approval of the Minister before implementing the plan.

The Board shall, within a period of 2 months after each financial year, submit a report on the activities of the Foundation during that financial year to the Minister.
15. The members of the Board or the officers and agents of the Foundation shall not be subject to any civil or criminal liability in respect of any act done or omission made in good faith in the performance of their functions under this Act.

16. (1) All legacies and donations for the benefit of the Foundation shall be exempt from stamp duty under the Stamp Duty Act.

(2) The income of the Foundation shall be exempt from any tax imposed under the Business Tax Act.

17. The Minister may, in consultation with the Board, make regulations for carrying into effect the principles and provisions of this Act and for amending the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

Ex-Plantation House, La Plaine, Au Cap
Creole Village, Val de Pres, Au Cap
Mission Ruins, Mission, Sans Soucis
Bel Ombre Treasure site

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NO SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

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DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACT, 2014

(Act 15 of 2014)

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Sections

PART I - PRELIMINARY

1. Short title and commencement
2. Interpretation

PART II - DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT DIVISION

3. Disaster Risk Management Division
4. Functions of Division
5. Integrated emergency management arrangement
6. Other committees
7. Director General and other staff of Division
8. Function of Director General
9. National Disaster Risk Management Committee
10. Composition of National Committee
11. Functions of National Committee
12. Meetings of National Committee
13. Establishment of vulnerability Committee
14. Functions of vulnerability Committee
15. Formulation of disaster risk management plan by government institutions and prescribed private organisations
16. Establishment of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
17. Function of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

PART III - DISASTER RISK AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

18. National disaster risk management strategy
19. Director General to prepare other plans
20. Other bodies to develop a disaster risk management programme
21. Preparation of strategy
22. Resources to be used in emergency
23. Emergency management operation centres
24. Shelter
25. Assessment of loss, injury and evacuation

PART IV - COMMUNICATIONS LINK

26. Directory of persons involved in disaster risk management, etc.
27. Emergency management and response
PART V- INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE
28. International assistance
29. Commencement and termination of International assistance
30. Minister may terminate international assistance

PART VI- NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FUND
31. National Disaster Risk Management Fund
32. Accounts and audit

PART VII- OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT
33. Volunteers
34. Employees who assist in emergency situations
35. Risk management officers
36. Multi-Hazard Risk Communication Alert and Warning System

PART VIII- REPORTING, DOCUMENTATION AND DATA COLLECTION
37. Obligations to supply information when requested by Director General
38. Obligation to make a damage report assessment

PART IX- DECLARATION OF DISASTERS
39. Declaration of disasters
40. Access to private places

PART X- MISCELLANEOUS
41. Protection from liability
42. Compensation for loss or injury suffered by public officer
43. Authorised officers
44. Powers of authorised officers
45. Power to take control of land or property during disaster
46. Compensation for taking possession or control of land or property
47. Indemnity for action of person acting under this Act
48. Powers to make regulations

AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Disaster Risk Management Division for the effective management of disaster through a comprehensive and integrated all-hazard approach and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

ENACTED by the President and the National Assembly.

PART I - PRELIMINARY
1. This Act may be cited as the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2014 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notice published in the Gazette, appoint.

J. A. Michel
President
19th August, 2014
Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise require —

"disaster" means a serious disruption in the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental threats, losses and impacts, whether arising from accident, social disruption, nature or human activity, whether developing suddenly or as a result of long term process;

"disaster risk" means the potential disaster losses, in lives, health status, livelihoods, assets and services, which could occur to a particular community or a society over some specified future time period;

"disaster risk reduction" means the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events;

"disaster risk area" means an area where a disaster has occurred or an area identified as a disaster risk area in the national disaster risk management plan or by contingency planning processes and related measures;

"disaster area" means a district, region, island or part thereof declared or designated as a disaster area for intervention and assistance as a result of disaster related losses;

"Division" means the Disaster Risk Management Division established under section 3;

"Director General" means the person appointed under section 7;

"early warning system" means the set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities and organisations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and with sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss;

"Fund" means the National Disaster Risk Management Fund established by section 31;

"government institution" includes a Ministry, Department of Government, administrator of a district, statutory body, government agency or any other organisation performing a public service;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for disaster risk management;

"National Committee" means the National Disaster Risk Management Committee established by section 9;

"prescribed" means prescribed by regulations made under this Act.

PART II - DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT DIVISION

3. There is hereby established a division within the Government to be known as the Disaster Risk Management Division.

4.(1) The Functions of the Division shall be to —

(a) function as the national body for disaster risk management on a national level and in
supporting regional and local level disaster risk management initiatives and response;

(b) implement and monitor a comprehensive integrated disaster risk management system at all levels by facilitating and coordinating the development and implementation of integrated disaster risk management systems through the national disaster risk management policy and international disaster risk management guidelines;

c) design methods and establish norms and criteria for auditing guidelines to undertake hazard surveillance, identification, analysis and risk assessment to implement disaster risk reduction activities through government bodies, non-governmental organisations, private sectors and communities.

d) coordinate, monitor and promote a uniform approach to disaster risk management among government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities including adoption of common standards and best practices;

(e) prepare a National Disaster Risk Management Plan and Strategy, having regard to the national disaster policy and disaster risk management plans and strategies prepared by the government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities;

(f) implement such other plans, strategies, procedures and guidelines as the Director General considers necessary or as recommended by the National Committee or the Minister;

(g) develop guidelines on, and provide technical assistance to, the preparation of disaster risk management plans and strategies by the government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities;

(h) approve, review and monitor disaster risk management plans of each government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities;

(i) monitor, coordinate and give directions regarding mitigation and preparedness measures to be taken by the government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities;

(j) collaborate with relevant government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities and such other bodies or persons as the Division deems necessary and to—

(i) identify, analyse and map hazards, conduct related research and develop control measures, preparedness and responses strategy;

(ii) conduct vulnerability and risk assessments and investigations as and when required to determine vulnerable areas for each hazard;

(iii) encourage and support the development of community based
sustainable development programmes and interventions aimed at reducing the risk and impact of hazards and disasters and harness community resources for disaster preparedness, response and recovery; and

(iv) encourage and support the establishment of resilience critical infrastructures;

(k) plan and coordinate specialised training programmes for persons involved in disaster risk management including volunteers;

(l) provide business continuity planning advice and assistance to the private sector as resources permit;

(m) coordinate the conduct of assessments following a disaster;

(n) promote education and awareness in relation to disaster risk management and use such mechanisms as necessary to stimulate public interest in disaster risk management and in securing public cooperation and participation in achieving planned objectives—

(i) act as a repository and conduit for hazard and other disaster related information and collaborate with relevant agencies as it thinks necessary in the collection, processing and analysis of such information; and

(ii) develop and maintain a database on disaster related information including climate change and other new and emerging threats and ensure access to the database by stakeholders including special vulnerable areas declared;

(o) to reduce vulnerability to disasters in the identified areas of concern and to put in place appropriate measures that minimises the impact or negative effects of disaster;

(p) promote development of new technologies in risk and vulnerability reduction programmes including early warning systems and carry out risk awareness campaigns;

(q) coordinate and monitor long term risk and vulnerability reduction, rehabilitation and recovery programmes carried out by other stakeholders and players in the country and facilitate resources for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction programmes;

(r) perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

5. In implementing the integrated emergency management and coordination system, the Division shall—

(a) set out specific requirements and uniform procedures on matters which can be standardised nationally, including the declaration of an emergency, allocation of functions and responsibilities between the agencies;

(b) command and control of operations and inter-agency coordination arrangements and make the best use of available resources for response at local, regional, national and international level;
(c) set out responsibility in ensuring that inter-agency co-ordination arrangements are developed at all level for effective co-ordination of individual response efforts to emergencies;

(d) provide common terminology to facilitate coordinated and safe working;

(e) identify and prioritise risks to ensure that existing services are prepared and equipped to deal with realistic potential emergencies;

(f) ensure preparedness by the principal response agencies to ensure prompt and effective coordinated response;

(g) activate response mechanisms for effective, timely search and rescue operations to save lives and minimise damage to property in times of crisis and ensuring the protection and care of the public at times of vulnerability;

(h) ensure that measures are in place to restore livelihoods and other life support;

(i) coordinate response in the event of a threat of the disaster;

(j) organise and execute various drills, functional and full-scale exercises annually;

(k) advise, assist and coordinate the activities of the government institutions, non-governmental organisations, private sector entities and communities.

6. The Division may, in consultation with the Minister, set up other committees as deemed necessary for the purpose of carrying out its functions under this Act.

7.(1) The President shall, by order published in the Gazette, appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person to be the Director General who shall be responsible for the administration and management of the affairs of the Division.

(2) The Minister, with the approval of the President, shall appoint competent public officers to be disaster risk management officers and a competent public officer to be a shelter manager for the purposes of this Act;

(3) Without prejudice to subsection (2), the Director General may, with the approval of the Minister, employ suitable and qualified persons as may be necessary for the effective performance of the functions of the Division under this Act.

(4) The Division shall issue credentials to every person appointed under this section or authorised to act as an authorised officer under section 43, with distinctive badges, tags or other identification as deemed necessary.

8. In carrying out the functions under this Act, the Director General shall —

(a) advise the Minister on matters relating to disaster risk management;

(b) review and assess the various programmes and activities of the government which have an impact on disaster risk management and make recommendations to the Minister on the likely effect of such activities;

(c) in collaboration with other departments or agencies, conduct investigations, studies, surveys, research and analysis relating to all hazards;
(d) in collaboration with government or other agencies, participate in programmes to prepare and review disaster risk assessments and to analyse and interpret the information gathered under paragraph (c) for the purpose of determining whether such conditions and trends are interfering or are likely to interfere, with the achievement of disaster risk management;

(e) conduct programmes of public information and education on disaster risk management;

(f) liaise with persons and other organisations in and outside of Seychelles for the purpose of exchanging information and facilitating the harmonisation of policies;

(g) consult with stakeholders in the preparation of the national disaster risk management plan and provide technical advice to facilitate the development of regulations relating to disaster risk management;

(h) establish mechanism to collect information to facilitate policy formulation and planned decision-making with other sectors;

(i) compile and submit to the Minister necessary reports on disaster risk management;

(j) require any governmental institutions to make such publicly owned vehicles, plant, equipment or personnel available with the Division for the purposes of response, rescue and relief;

(k) require any governmental institutions, non-governmental organisations or private sectors to report on any incident, accident or any low intensity event occurred that have caused injury, damage to property, the environment or losses or had the potential to cause harm to human, damages to property, environment, or severe economic impact;

(l) enter any place of incident for the purpose of rendering support, guidance carrying out risk assessment;

(m) develop standard operating procedures for the Division;

(n) enter into memorandum of understanding, with the approval of the Minister, on behalf of the Republic in matters relating to the administration and functioning of this Act.

9.(1) There shall be established a National Disaster Risk Management Committee comprising of persons with high level capacity to advise the President and the Cabinet, through the Minister on matters relating to disaster risk management.

(2) The Minister shall be the chairperson of the National Committee.

(3) The National Committee shall elect a vice-chairperson from its members.

10.(1) The National Committee shall consist of the following members, to be appointed by the President, by notice published in Gazette, —

(a) the Director General;

(b) a representative of the President's office;

(c) Principal Secretaries of the Ministries or departments responsible for —
The functions of the National Committee shall be as follows:

(a) advise and make recommendations to the President and the Cabinet in relation to the application of this Act.

(b) ensure that the principles of the disaster risk reduction are integrated into the activities of each relevant government institution and that each government institution takes primary responsibility for disaster risk management within their sector.

(c) ensure that disaster risk reduction is integrated into all development policies, strategies and programmes at national, regional and local levels.

(d) support and mobilise resources for improved disaster risk assessment, the quality of information and data on disaster risk and for strengthening early warning systems.

(e) support the enhancement of skills and capacities for disaster risk management at all levels.

(f) promote and strengthen scientific, research and technical capacity in disaster reduction.

(g) advocate the development of national information and knowledge management strategies and the establishment of stakeholder networks for disaster risk management.

(h) review periodically policy issues regarding international appeals soliciting, the acceptance and the use of international assistance.

(i) provide guidance to the Division in matters pertaining to disaster risk management policies.

(j) review and update the disaster risk management plans.

(2) The President may, if he considers necessary, appoint such other persons or representatives of an association, organisation or institution, having such qualifications and experience in disaster risk management as may be prescribed, to be members of the National Committee.

(3) One representative each from:

(i) the Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation;

(ii) the Meteorological Office;

(iii) the Police Department not below the rank of Superintendent;

(iv) the Red Cross Society of Seychelles;

(v) the Seychelles Fire and Rescue Services Agency.

(4) The President may, if he considers necessary, appoint such other persons or representatives of an association, organisation or institution, having such qualifications and experience in disaster risk management as may be prescribed, to be members of the National Committee.

(5) The functions of the National Committee shall be as follows:

(a) advise and make recommendations to the President and the Cabinet in relation to the application of this Act.

(b) ensure that the principles of the disaster risk reduction are integrated into the activities of each relevant government institution and that each government institution takes primary responsibility for disaster risk management within their sector.

(c) ensure that disaster risk reduction is integrated into all development policies, strategies and programmes at national, regional and local levels.

(d) support and mobilise resources for improved disaster risk assessment, the quality of information and data on disaster risk and for strengthening early warning systems.

(e) support the enhancement of skills and capacities for disaster risk management at all levels.

(f) promote and strengthen scientific, research and technical capacity in disaster reduction.

(g) advocate the development of national information and knowledge management strategies and the establishment of stakeholder networks for disaster risk management.

(h) review and update the disaster risk management plans.

(i) provide guidance to the Division in matters pertaining to disaster risk management policies.

(j) review periodically policy issues regarding international appeals soliciting, the acceptance and the use of international assistance.
Meetings of National Committee

12. (1) The National Committee shall meet not less than four times a year in the first year of the commencement of this Act and not less than twice a year thereafter.

(2) The National Committee shall regulate its own proceedings.

(3) The National Committee may, in the manner as may be prescribed, establish one or more sub-committees as deemed necessary.

(4) The chairperson or in his or her absence, the vice-chairperson shall preside over the meetings of the National Committee.

(5) In the event of an emergency, the Minister shall have powers to call an extraordinary meeting of the National Committee.

Establishment of Vulnerability Assessment Committee

13. (1) There is hereby established a Vulnerability Assessment Committee.

(2) The Vulnerability Assessment Committee shall consist of the following members to be appointed, by notice published in the Gazette, by the Minister, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed—

(a) the Director General; and

(b) one or more officers not below the rank of director from—

(i) Ministry of Health dealing with the public health;

(ii) Ministry of Environment dealing with disaster risk management, forestry, environmental impact assessment, coastal adaptation and management or geographic information systems;

(iii) Ministry of Labour;

(iv) Ministry of Tourism;

(v) Department of Community Development and Sport;

(vi) Gender Secretariat and Child Welfare Services;

(vii) Seychelles Agriculture Agency;

(viii) Seychelles Peoples' Defence Force;

(ix) Seychelles Fire and Rescue Services Agency; and

(x) Seychelles National Parks Authority.

(3) A member of the Vulnerability Assessment Committee appointed under subsections (2)(b) shall hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

14. (1) The Vulnerability Assessment Committee shall perform the following functions—

(a) collect vulnerability information and conduct assessments taking an all-hazard approach in order to—

(i) inform early warning on potential risks and hazards;

(ii) guide national planning processes and development strategies;

(iii) inform government and relevant stakeholders of poverty reduction
strategies and social safety-net programming relevant to Disaster Risk Reduction;

(b) assess disaster risk indicators to identify factors that influence risk and vulnerability such as livelihoods and well-being on a national, regional and local level;

(c) assess the outcomes of impacts of disasters on livelihoods and psychosocial impacts of disasters;

(d) update livelihood zones and baselines for monitoring vulnerability;

(e) host and periodically update data of vulnerability assessment information;

(f) conduct and compile periodic vulnerability assessment reports and submit to the President and the Cabinet through the National Committee;

(g) train sectors and necessary stakeholders on vulnerability assessment;

(h) monitor early warning information.

(2) The Vulnerability Assessment Committee may, where it deem necessary require a government institution in consultation with the Director General to develop and implement disaster risk management programmes consisting of—

(a) training programmes and exercises for staff members, employees and other persons with respect to the provision of necessary services and the procedures to be followed in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities;

(b) public education on risks to public safety and on disaster risk management preparedness, response and recovery in relation to its programme prepared under paragraph (a); and

(c) any other matter required by the disaster risk management programmes as may be prescribed.

(3) In developing a disaster risk management programme, every government institution shall identify various hazards and assess the risks to public safety that could give rise to disasters and identify the facilities and other elements of the infrastructure for which the institution is responsible that are at risk of being affected by disasters.

15.(1) Every government institution and every prescribed private organisation shall formulate a disaster risk management plan in respect of the type and the role assigned to it by or under this Act governing the provision of necessary services during a disaster and the procedures under and the manner in which staff members or employees and other persons will respond to the disaster.

(2) A disaster risk management plan formulated under section (1) shall—

(a) authorise staff members, employees or other persons to take action under the plan, where a disaster exists;

(b) specify procedures to be taken for the safety or evacuation of persons in an affected or a disaster area;
(c) establish committees and designate staff members or employees to be responsible for reviewing the plan, training staff members or employees in their functions and implementing the disaster plan during an emergency or disaster;

(d) provide for the procurement and distribution of materials, equipment and supplies during a disaster;

(e) provide for such other matters as are considered necessary or advisable for the implementation of the disaster plan during preparedness, response and recovery; and

(f) provide for any other matter as may be prescribed.

(3) Every government institution and prescribed private organisation shall—

(a) align the development and implementation of its disaster risk management plan with other stakeholders and institutions for incorporation into the National Disaster Risk Management Plan;

(b) facilitate the training of personnel in the implementation of its disaster risk management plan;

(c) review regularly and update its disaster risk management plan; and

(d) submit a copy of its disaster risk management plan, and any amendment to the plan, to the Director General.

(4) The disaster risk management plan under subsection (1) shall include procedures on prevention, preparedness, response and recovery in relation to the disaster risk management—

(a) of ministries, departments of government, statutory bodies and other organisations or persons who perform functions under this Act;

(b) for coordinating the implementation of the national disaster risk management plan and implementation of emergency preparedness and response plans of persons and bodies in paragraph (a);

(c) for informing persons referred to in paragraph (a) and the public of the existence of a potential threat, alert of a disaster or the declaration of an emergency of disaster;

(d) for preparing and maintaining inventories of services and systems;

(e) for mobilising services and systems for preparedness, before an incident, during emergency operation and after the, incident, emergency operation or disaster including procedures for staffing emergency operations centres;

(f) for protecting and restoring communications, both nationally and internationally;

(g) for procuring, releasing, distributing and replenishing contingency stores of supplies of food, water, clothing and medical supplies;
Establishment of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

(h) for providing shelter for persons affected by the disaster;

(i) to apply the evacuation of the residents of an area affected by the disaster which is considered to be necessary;

(j) established by the Minister responsible for health for safeguarding against epidemics;

(k) established by the Commissioner of Police for safeguarding and protecting life and property from the dangers of looting and riotous behaviour;

(l) for cooperation with international organisations and governments of countries outside Seychelles;

(m) for accepting and facilitating the distribution of volunteer services and relief supplies during an alert, a declaration;

(n) to apply in the event that the requisitioning of private property is considered to be desirable including procedures for assessing and paying compensation;

(o) for prioritising recovery interventions;

(p) for maintaining a national disaster risk management information system.

16. (1) There is hereby established, a committee to be known as the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

(2) The chairperson and the vice-chairperson of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction shall be appointed by the Minister in consultation with the National Committee, who shall be public officers not below the rank of Director.

(3) The Minister may appoint such other persons, having qualification, expertise and experience in disaster risk reduction, to be the members of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as may be necessary for effective implementation of this Act.

17. The functions of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction shall be to—

(a) perform as a national mechanism to address inter-related social, economic and environmental problems;

(b) support the identification of urgent needs in the area of disaster risk reduction and reviewing the implementation of disaster risk reduction activities in line with the national plan;

(c) perform as a catalyst for national consultation and consensus building, as well as for Disaster Risk Reduction priority identification and policy formulation, implementation and monitoring Disaster Risk Reduction activities;

(d) coordinate to enhance multi-stakeholder collaboration for the sustainability of disaster risk reduction activities through a consultative and participatory process in line with the implementation of the Hyogo framework for action;

(e) foster an enabling environment for developing a culture of prevention, through advocacy of and awareness-raising on disaster risk reduction and the necessity and
importance of its integration into development policies, planning and programmes; and

(f) facilitate the integration of disaster risk reduction into national policies, planning, programmes in various development sectors as well as into international or bilateral development aid policies and programmes.

PART III - DISASTER RISK AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

18.(1) The Director General shall prepare a National Disaster Risk Management Strategy which shall consist of—

(a) measures for the prevention of disasters and mitigation of their effects;
(b) measures to be taken for the integration of risk reduction and mitigation in development plans and projects at all levels;
(c) measures to be taken for preparedness and capacity building to effectively respond to any threat that has a potential to cause harm to human, environment, property and livelihood;
(d) integrated disaster risk reduction strategies involving multi stakeholder participation;
(e) timely disaster risk reduction actions that contribute to sustainable development by limiting the loss of life and livelihood and environmental and property damage;
(f) the introduction of mechanisms to ensure transportation, utilities and public sector infrastructure networks are able to withstand potential threats; and

(g) such other matters as may be prescribed.

(2) The National Integrated Emergency Management Plan to be prepared by the Director General shall consist of—

(a) roles and responsibilities of all government institutions in relation to the disaster risk and emergency management;
(b) the structure of command and control during preparation, response and recovery to threats, events and aftermath of an event or disaster, whether or not the emergency or disaster is such to prompt the issuance of an alert, a declaration of a disaster; and
(c) the outline of the government business continuity plan in relation to paragraphs (a) and (b).

(3) The Director General shall, in consultation with the National Committee review the plan under subsection (1) annually and may, with the approval of the Minister make amendments to the plan.

19. The Director General shall prepare other plans which shall contain details of arrangements under the coordination of the Director General for matters relating to hazard identification, risk assessment and mitigation.

20.(1) The Director General shall give guidance to the government institutions, private sector entities, non-governmental organisations, communities and individuals to assess and prevent or reduce the risk of disasters, including—

(a) ways and means of —

(i) determining levels of risk;
(ii) assessing the vulnerability of communities and households to disasters that may occur;

(iii) increasing the capacity of communities and households to minimise the risk and impact of disasters that may occur; and

(iv) monitoring the likelihood of, and the state of alertness to disasters that may occur;

(b) the development and implementation of appropriate prevention and mitigation methodologies;

(c) the integration of prevention and mitigation methodologies with development plans, programmes and initiatives; and

(d) the management of high-risk developments.

(2) The Director General shall promote formal and informal initiatives that encourage risk-avoidance behaviour by the government institutions, non-governmental organisations, communities and individuals.

21.(1) The Director General may order to organise drills, exercise to test their system in order to ensure effectiveness and readiness.

(2) Every government institution shall conduct exercises and training for staff in relation to Disaster Risk Management.

(3) Every government institution shall take part in drills, exercises and training organise by the Division for the purpose of ensuring procedures in place are effective, to identify possible weaknesses or short-comings in strategy of preparedness and response, and to continuously train and test all devices and equipment used for preparedness and response.

22. Every government institution shall ensure that the resources available may be used for or identified for use in an emergency or disaster is maintained so as to be ready for use.

23.(1) The Director General shall be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a National Emergency Operations Centre and supplementary emergency operations centres, whether or not based on geographical location or any other required factor.

(2) The National Emergency Operation Centre shall serve as the headquarters of the activities undertaken in emergency response to an alert, event or disaster.

(3) The Director General shall provide staff and resources to effectively manage and operate the National Emergency Operation Centre.

24.(1) The Director General shall establish and maintain a shelter list of premises available and suitable for the use as shelter, during a declaration of an emergency or an alert or in the event or the aftermath of an emergency or a disaster.

(2) The Director General shall in the shelters list indicate —

(a) the shelters under the control of the Government and any other shelter;

(b) the facilities available at each shelter;

(c) the suitability of each shelter for use during a declaration of emergency or an alert or in the event or the aftermath of an emergency or a disaster; and
(d) the periods for and the conditions under which the shelter would be suitable for use in the instances in paragraph (c).

(3) The Director General shall assign to each shelter a shelter manager who shall have the responsibility of managing the shelter during any period where the premises are being used for that purpose, and may assign employees of the Division as shelter officers to assist a shelter manager.

(4) Where a shelter is not in the Government's possession, the designation of shelter managers or shelter officers for the premises shall be subject to the agreement of the owner of the shelter.

(5) The owner or occupier of any premises listed as a shelter in the shelter list is not liable to any person taking shelter on the premises for any injury to such person or damage to or loss of any person's property, which injury, damage or loss arises from the condition of the premises, where the use of the premises for shelter was within the listed limits of suitability of the premises under this section.

(6) The provisions of subsection (5) are without prejudice to any other right or remedy which the person suffering damage or loss may have—

(a) against the owner or occupier of the premises; or

(b) against the owner or occupier of the premises for damage or loss arising otherwise than from the condition of the premises.

(7) The Director General shall inspect shelters annually.

(8) The Minister may enter into agreements with the owners of premises used as shelters where these are not in occupation.

(9) A person shall not obstruct a shelter manager or a shelter officer in the execution of his or her duty in relation to the function of the shelter manager or shelter officer under this section.

(10) A person who contravenes subsection (9) commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine not exceeding SCR20,000 or to both such imprisonment and fine.

25.(1) The Director General shall assess the potential for loss of life and injury to persons where there is a threat of a hazard or where a disaster has occurred.

(2) If on a assessment pursuant to subsection (1) an evacuation is considered necessary, the Minister acting on the advice of the Director General shall subject to subsection (3) issue a notice of evacuation.

(3) A notice of evacuation pursuant to subsection (2) shall specify the nature of the disaster and the area required to be evacuated and the potential harm to persons.

(4) Where a notice is issued pursuant to subsection (2), the Director General shall coordinate the evacuation with the assistance of agencies involved in emergency and disaster risk management.

(5) Every person shall comply with a notice of evacuation issued pursuant to this section.

(6) A person who fails to comply with a notice of evacuation issued under subsection (2) commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine not exceeding SCR20,000 or to both such imprisonment and fine.

PART IV - COMMUNICATIONS LINK

26.(1) The Director General shall—

(a) develop and maintain a directory of all government institutions, private sector
entities and non-governmental organisations involved in the disaster risk management and emergency management and response showing—

(i) their names, telephone and fax numbers and physical, postal and electronic addresses;

(ii) particulars of their involvement in disaster risk management; and

(iii) the nature, capacity and location of emergency and relief services under their control; and

(b) establish effective communication links with contact persons identified by the ministries, departments of government, statutory bodies, private sector entities and non-governmental organisations.

(2) The directory must include particulars of—

(a) all government institutions and bodies involved in disaster risk management;

(b) non-governmental organisations involved in disaster risk management;

(c) disaster risk management experts both locally and internationally;

(d) private sector entities with specialised equipment, skills or knowledge relevant to disaster risk management;

(e) private sector voluntary agencies involved in disaster risk management; and

(f) foreign non-governmental organisations and international organisations involved in disaster risk management.

(3) The Director General shall establish communication links with foreign disaster risk management agencies, including institutions performing functions similar to those performed by the Division, to exchange information to have access to international expertise in and assistance in respect of disaster risk management.

27. (1) The Director General shall—

(a) collect information on all aspects of disasters and disaster risk management;

(b) process and analyse the information collected under paragraph (a); and

(c) develop and maintain an electronic database envisaged under this section;

(2) The electronic database developed by the Division shall contain extensive information concerning disasters that occur or may occur locally and disaster risk management issues, including information on—

(a) phenomena, occurrence, and circumstances that cause or aggravate disaster;

(b) risk factors underlying disasters and ways and means to reduce such risks;

(c) recurring occurrences that result in loss, but which are not classified as disasters in terms of this Act;

(d) prevention and mitigation;

(e) early warning systems;
(f) areas and communities that are particularly vulnerable to disasters;

(g) indigenous knowledge relating to disaster risk management;

(h) the directory under section 26 and the names and particulars of contact persons;

(i) emergency response resources and capacity in the government institutions and in the non-government sectors, including location and size of, and other relevant information relating to —

(i) police stations;

(ii) hospitals, clinics and other health institutions;

(iii) emergency medical services;

(iv) school, church and public buildings and other facilities that could be used as emergency shelters or hospitals in the event of a disaster;

(v) fire-fighting services; and

(vi) airports, airstrips, harbours and seaports;

(j) emergency response resources and capacity in neighbouring countries and relevant international relief agencies;

(k) emergency preparedness in the different Ministries and Departments of Government;

(l) research and training facilities for disaster risk management disciplines.

(3) The Director General shall ensure that security safeguard is properly established against any misuse and unauthorised access.

PART V - INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

28.(1) The Director General shall, in consultation with the Minister, make —

(a) an initial estimate as to whether domestic capacities are sufficient to attend to the needs of affected persons for disaster relief and initial recovery assistance; and

(b) a determination as to whether and what international assistance is required, and, with the consent of the President immediately request for international assistance through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(2) The request for international assistance shall be accompanied by information —

(a) as to the extent and type of assistance required, based on a report prepared by the Director General in consultation with the Minister; and

(b) on the procedures assisting international organisations are to follow when making offers or providing assistance.

(3) The Division may in consultation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs request for assistance with the foreign components of the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement to supplement the disaster relief and recovery assistance.

(4) Assistance from international humanitarian organisations shall be accepted if an offer is based on relevance
and need which has been deemed necessary based on the report prepared under subsection (2).

(5) An international humanitarian organisations present in Seychelles may provide direct offers to the Division;

(6) An international humanitarian organisation or a country interested in providing assistance to Seychelles shall direct their offers through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the appropriate embassy, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall forward such offers of assistance to the Division who shall take a decision on the offer.

(7) Where an offer has been accepted, the representative of the international humanitarian organisation shall comply with the general terms of the offer and if the offer was unconditional, the Division, in consultation with the representative of the international humanitarian organisation, shall come to an agreement as to the type, amount and estimated duration of the assistance.

29. The period for international assistance shall commence when request for assistance is accepted and terminate after an assessment of the disaster is carried out by the Division in consultation with the National Committee and the international humanitarian organisation concluding in writing that the international assistance is no longer required after the termination date, announced 7 days prior to the proposed termination date.

30.(1) The Minister, in consultation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, may terminate the international assistance by issuing a notice in writing to the international organisation.

(2) Upon termination of any the international assistance, the international organisation shall ensure that there is a adequate handover of responsibilities, in order to reduce any negative impact from the terminations;

(3) The Director General shall negotiate with the international humanitarian organisations in advance as to what costs if any, that Seychelles will bear for the assistance the international humanitarian organisation will be providing.

(4) The Director General shall to the extent it is necessary for the performance of disaster relief and recovery—

(a) serve as the focal point for liaison between Seychelles and assisting international humanitarian organisations;

(b) inform the international humanitarian organisations of their rights and responsibilities under this Act;

(c) request relevant government institution to make available assets or premises required to facilitate the work of the international humanitarian organisation;

(d) facilitate the entry of the humanitarian personnel in Seychelles, including liaising with the Ministry responsible for immigration for necessary visa or permit, as the case may be, to be issued for the duration of the assistance;

(e) facilitate through the authority responsible for qualification for temporary recognition of professional qualifications of foreign medical personnel and other licences or certificates of humanitarian personnel;

(f) facilitate through the Ministry responsible for finance and trade for—
exemption of customs duties, taxes, levies and tariffs or any other government fees on goods and equipment imported, to be exported, in transit or to be re-exported;

(ii) inspection requirements of the goods and equipment to be used for the disaster relief and recovery; and

(iii) recognition of foreign drivers licences.

(g) facilitate through the Ministry responsible for telecommunication for the use and setting up of the telecommunication equipment by the humanitarian personnel;

(h) facilitate access (and as much as possible provide care, security and protection) to areas affected by the disaster;

(i) facilitate through the Ministry responsible for finance the opening of bank account, if necessary;

(j) ensure the security and safety of the humanitarian personnel and the goods and equipment to be used by them;

(k) liaise and facilitate interactions with the Ministry responsible for health to verify and issue licences to export and distribute the medication and equipment to be used by the international humanitarian organisation;

(l) facilitate the role of the assisting international humanitarian organisations into their contingency planning and mechanism for operational coordination for disaster relief and initial recovery assistance.

(5) The assisting international humanitarian organisation shall cooperate and coordinate with national authorities and organisations during the disaster relief and initial recovery period.

(6) The head of the international humanitarian organisation shall ensure that any medications or equipment to be used are safe, of good quality, have not expired, are maintained in appropriate condition and are labelled in a language understood by the medical doctors of Seychelles.

(7) The international humanitarian organisations shall comply with the principles of humanity, independence and impartiality in providing assistance and shall establish priorities on the basis of need and they shall not—

(a) engage in adverse distinctions, exclusions or preferences based on status, nationality, race, ethnicity, religious belief, class, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age or political opinion;

(b) seek to further a particular political or religious standpoint or interfere in internal matters not relating to disaster response;

(c) seek to obtain commercial gain from their assistance; and

(d) gather sensitive information of a political, economic or military nature.

(8) The international humanitarian organisation shall ensure that any goods or equipment they import for the purpose of disaster relief or initial recovery assistance which are or become unusable, including other waste products produced by them are destroyed, recycled or otherwise disposed of in a safe, environmental friendly and effective manner and in accordance with the laws relating to environment for the time being in force in Seychelles.
(9) A humanitarian personnel shall not be liable for any acts done in good faith during his or her performance of assistance.

PART VI - NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FUND

31.(1) There is hereby established a Fund to be known as the National Disaster Risk Management Fund.

(2) The resources of the Fund shall consist of—

(a) such moneys as may be appropriated by the National Assembly;

(b) such donations and grants as may be made by persons and organisations;

(c) such other moneys as the Division may raise through activities organised by or on behalf of the Division; and

(d) such other moneys as may be transferred from any other fund.

(3) The Fund shall be administered by the Division.

(4) The Fund shall be applied towards recovery efforts and the adoption and promotion of preventative measures before, during and after a disaster or an emergency.

(5) The Division shall, in the administration of the Fund, be responsible for—

(a) determining the criteria to be applied in—

(i) funding projects and programmes in relation to the mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from, emergencies and disasters; and

(b) keeping of proper books of accounts and other records;

(c) maintaining a list of assistance provided by multi-national corporations with respect to medicines, food, water and sanitation equipment;

(d) keeping the record of moneys received from foreign countries and foreign individuals at the time of a disaster;

(e) preparing and submitting the reports relating to the administration of the Fund to the Minister and the Minister responsible for finance; and

(f) making recommendations to the Division on activities geared towards raising funds.

32.(1) The Division shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records of the Fund and prepare a statement of accounts in the form and manner approved by the Auditor General.

(2) The account of the Fund shall be audited by the Auditor General in accordance with Article 158 of the Constitution.

(3) Where the accounts and the statement of accounts of the Fund in respect of a financial year have been audited, the Division shall furnish, not later than 3 months after the end of the financial year, to the Minister and the Minister responsible for finance, a copy of the statement together with a copy of any
report by the Auditor General on the statement of accounts or on
the accounts of the Fund and the Minister shall cause it to be
tabled in the National Assembly.

PART VII - OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS INVOLVED
IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

33.(1) The Director General shall maintain a register of
volunteers to be known as the Register of Volunteers.

(2) A person who wishes to volunteer for the purposes
of assisting in an emergency or a disaster shall submit his or her
name to the Director General for registration as a volunteer and
the Director General shall, after undertaking a screening
process and if he or she sees fit register in the Register of
Volunteers the person as a volunteer.

(3) The administrator of each district shall submit in
writing to the Director General on or before 1st day of January in
each year, the names of the volunteers and the Director General
shall after a screening process register, the names of volunteers
who he or she sees fit, in the Register of Volunteers the person as a volunteer.

(4) The Director General may, from time to time, amend
the Register of Volunteers.

(5) The Director General shall annually publish the
names of all volunteers registered in the Register of Volunteers
in the Gazette.

(6) The Director General may engage a volunteer who
is not on the Register of Volunteers if during a disaster it is
practicable to do so.

(7) The Director General shall provide training to all
volunteers.

(8) A volunteer who exercises the duties assigned to
him or her pursuant to this Act in good faith shall not be liable
for injury to persons or loss to property caused as a result of
those duties.

34.(1) Where the Director General certifies in writing that
the services of a person is or was needed by the Division, for the
performance of tasks related to preparation, response and
recovery from an emergency during a specified period, the
employer of that person shall pay the salary and all benefits to
which the employee was entitled for the period specified.

(2) The period the Director General may specify under
subsection (1) shall in no case exceed a continuous period of 2
weeks.

(3) An employer who fails to comply with subsection
(1) commits an offence and on conviction be liable to
imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or a fine not
exceeding SCR50,000 or to both such imprisonment and fine.

35.(1) The Director General shall appoint officers to be
known as risk management officer for the purpose of
implementation of specific provision of this Act.

(2) The Director General shall issue credentials to
every person appointed to act as a risk management officer.

(3) The functions of the risk management officer is to
inspect and assess premises in relation to risk or threat and for
that purpose may—

(a) enter in to a premises which, in the opinion of
the Director General, appear to pose a
reasonable danger of serious injury to
persons, animal, or serious harm to human
and animal health inside or outside the
premises or pose reasonable threat to
property, livelihood inside within or outside
the premises and that such danger or threat
can lead to serious or catastrophic consequences that may lead to a disaster; and

(b) enter into the premises at a reasonable time with the consent of the owner or occupier or under the authority of a warrant issued by a Magistrate for the purpose of carrying out the functions conferred under this Act.

(4) Where a magistrate is satisfied, on evidence on oath by a risk management officer, that the conditions of any premises is reasonably suspected of posing a danger of serious injury to persons inside or outside of the premises in the event of a disaster, the Magistrate may issue a warrant authorising the risk management officer efficient to enter and inspect the premises for hazards.

(5) A warrant issued under subsection (4) expires not later than 2 weeks after the date on which it is made, and may be renewed before expiry for period not exceeding 7 days.

(6) A risk management officer who exercises a power under this section shall identify himself to any person in control of the premises to be inspected at the time of the inspection, by the production of his or her credentials issued pursuant to subsection (2) and the warrant of the Magistrate issued pursuant to subsection (4) and shall explain the purpose of the assessment or inspection.

(7) The risk management officer shall prepare a report on the results of any inspection carried out under this section and shall submit a copy of the report to the Director General.

(8) Upon receiving the report under subsection (7), the Director General shall—

(a) provide a copy of the report submitted by the risk management officer to the owner or occupier of the premises in respect of which a report is submitted; and

(b) if the report reveals that the condition of any premises poses danger of serious injury to persons inside or outside the premises and the condition of the premises which gives rise to the danger constitutes a violation of any law, submit to the relevant ministry, department of government or body responsible for that other law a copy of the report submitted by the risk management officer.

(9) Subject to subsection (8), the Director General pursuant to the report under subsection (7) shall request the owner of the premises to take remedial action within a specified period of time.

(10) The owner who fails to comply with a request made pursuant to subsection (9) commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine not exceeding SCR20,000 or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(11) A report of a risk management officer under this section shall be admissible in any legal proceedings as evidence of the truth of the report's findings of fact, whether or not the Republic is a party to such proceedings.

(12) A person shall not obstruct the Director General or risk management officer in the execution of his or her duty in relation to the functions of the Director General or the risk management officer under this section commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to a fine not exceeding SCR20,000 or to both such imprisonment and fine.

36. (1) There shall be established a National Multi-Hazard Risk Communication Alert and Warning System for Seychelles.
PART VIII - REPORTING, DOCUMENTATION AND DATA COLLECTION

37. Every government institution shall supply to the Director General in the prescribed manner and by such date as may be required by the Director General, such information as may be requested by the Director General.

38. (1) Every government institution shall prepare a report on damage assessment in the aftermath of a disaster.

(2) A report prepared under subsection (1) shall be submitted to the Director General as soon as practicable after it is prepared.

PART IX - DECLARATION OF DISASTERS

39. (1) Notwithstanding subsection (2), the President may, on being satisfied that a grave civil emergency has arisen or imminent due to a disaster, declare a state of emergency under article 41(1)(b) of the Constitution and specify any area as “disaster area” or “potential disaster area”.

(2) Upon a declaration under subsection (1), the provisions of Part III of the Constitution shall apply and the powers and functions of the Minister under this Act shall be deemed to be the powers and functions of the President.

(3) Subject to subsection (1), the Minister may, on the recommendation of the Director General or on his or her own motion, declare an area—

(a) a “disaster area” on the event of any disaster; or

(b) a “potential disaster area” depending on possible or imminent threat of disaster,

that is deemed to required specific response necessary to save life or property or to take measures for disaster risk management.

(4) A declaration made under subsection (3) shall be valid for a period of 7 days from the date of such declaration unless the period has been extended with the approval of the President and the National Assembly.

(5) The declaration made under this section shall specify the threat level and colour coding in respect of disaster.

(6) When a declaration in respect of an area in Seychelles or part thereof has been made under this section, the National Committee shall—

(a) make provisions for the release of available resources including equipment vehicles, water transport, air transport and any other facilities; and

(b) make arrangements for personnel to be made temporarily available for the performance of emergency services.
40. Where a declaration has been made under section 39, the Police may, take measures necessary to limit the extent of the threat, incident or disaster, totally or partially prohibit or restrict public access, with or without vehicles, to any road or pathway lending to the disaster area which is affected or likely to be affected by the event.

PART X - MISCELLANEOUS

Protection from liability

41. (1) Any suit or other legal proceedings shall not lie against a person in respect of an act done or intended to be done in good faith in the exercise or performance of his or her powers, duties, or obligations in pursuance of this Act.

(2) The public officers appointed under this Act shall be deemed to be employed in the public service and sections 91 to 96 of the Penal Code shall apply to them.

Compensation for loss or injury suffered by public officer

42. Where the Director General or any public officer or person appointed under this Act suffers any physical injury, or loss or damage to any personal property in the course of his or her duties under this Act or regulations made thereunder, he or she shall be entitled to receive compensation paid out of public funds in respect of the expenses incurred in the treatment of the injury and the value of such property loss or damage.

Authorised officer

43. The President may during the period of the state of emergency appoint staff members of the Division or public service or appoint other persons to be authorised officers for such periods and for such areas and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the instrument designating or appointing the staff member or person.

Powers of authorised officers

44. (1) An authorised officer may, during the period of the state of emergency, direct any person, by order in writing—

(a) to supply him or her with information relating to—

(i) employees; or

(ii) the existence and availability of any services, facility or thing which may be used for or in connection with the emergency, disaster or state of national disaster which is under the control or in possession of such person;

(b) to maintain such specified stock of fuel, food, water or medical supplies for the use before, during or after an emergency or disaster as he or she may reasonably be expected to maintain;

(c) who is the owner or manager of any industry or trade which the authorised officer reasonably believes is an essential industry or trade or renders an essential service, to take in regards to that industry trade or service or the continuation thereof, such steps as the authorised officer considers necessary to deal with the emergency or disaster.

(2) Every authorised officer and any person performing disaster risk management tasks under this Act shall maintain and aid in maintaining confidentiality of information supplied in compliance with an order made under subsection (1).

(3) A person who is aggrieved by an order made under subsection (1) may appeal in writing to the Supreme Court.

(4) On receipt of an appeal under subsection (3), the Supreme Court, after requiring the authorised officer to submit written reply in the matter and considering any reply so submitted, may confirm, vary or set aside the order appealed against or give such other directions in the matter as the Supreme Court deems appropriate.
(5) An authorised officer may in the exercise of his or her powers or the performance of his or her functions or duties under this Act—

(a) enter, or break and enter any premises; or

(b) order people to evacuate themselves and their property from the location, if he or she believes on reasonable grounds that such action is necessary for—

(i) the preservation of the life of persons or animals;

(ii) the prevention of injury to persons, or animals or harm to human health and animal;

(iii) the removal of injured persons or animals;

(iv) the protection of property livelihood; and

(v) the prevention of damage to the environment.

(2) An authorised officer may, during the period of the state of emergency—

(a) take control over any land or other property for the purpose of dealing with the situation;

(b) direct any person who is the owner of or who has possession of or control over any land or other property which is required for the purposes of dealing with the disaster situation to surrender the use of such land to a specified person or to a specified authority or to deliver or make available such property to a specified person in the service of that authority.

(2) The authorised officer shall, after taking possession or control of land or property or giving a direction under subsection (1), cause written notice of such taking such possession or control of land or property or giving direction to be served on any person owning or possessing such land or property.

(3) Where it is possible to do so, cause the written notice referred to in subsection (2) to be served before taking possession or control of the land or property concerned or giving the directions.

(4) The person from whom possession or control of any land or property has been or is about to be taken under this section may, if he or she objects to such taking of possession or control, notify the authorised officer concerned.

(5) Where an authorised officer is notified under subsection (4), he or she shall, within 14 days apply to the Supreme Court for a determination of his or her entitlement to exercise the or her powers under this section.

(6) On an application made under subsection (5), the Supreme Court may—

(a) confirm the order if it is satisfied that the exercise of the power by the authorised officer under this section was reasonably justifiable in the circumstances of the situation arising or existing as a result of the disaster concerned or giving rise to the
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declaration of the state of disaster for the purpose of dealing with that situation; or

(b) order the authorised officer to return any land or property which he or she has taken into possession or control or to cancel the notice of intention to take possession or control thereof or to cancel the directive, if it is satisfied that exercise of the power by the authorised officer was not reasonably justifiable in the circumstances of the situation.

(7) Where the continued possession or control by an authorised officer of any land or property taken in under subsection (2) is no longer reasonably justifiable,

(a) the land or property shall be promptly returned, wherever possible, in the condition in which it was at the time of such taking of possession or control;

(b) the owner or any other person entitled to the return of any land or property or entitled to compensation in terms of section 46 may apply to the Supreme Court for the return of the land or property or for the determination of the right to or the amount of such compensation, as the case may be, and the Supreme Court shall make such order.

(8) No land or other property owned or possessed by the State may be taken under this section without the prior approval of the Minister responsible for the land or property.

46. (1) If any land or property of any person has been taken, damaged, removed or destroyed in terms of section 45(1)(a) or if any person is directed in terms of section 45(1)(b) to surrender the use of any land or to deliver or make available any property to a specified person or authority or any premises has been broken under section 44(5)(a), that person is entitled to payment of compensation, as may be agreed on between that person and the Minister.

(2) A dispute arising from the determination of compensation payable under subsection (1) may be referred for resolution to the Supreme Court.

47. The Minister, a member of the National Committee or any other committee, the administrator of a district, or a person in the service of the Government, a volunteer or any person who exercises a power or performs a function or discharges a duty under this Act, is not liable for any loss or damage as a result of injury, loss of life or loss of or damage to the property, caused by or arises out of, or in connection with, anything done or performed in good faith in the exercise, performance or discharge of a power, function or duty, as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

48. The Minister may make regulations, consistent with this Act, to give effect to the provisions of this Act.

I certify that this is a correct copy of the Bill which was passed by the National Assembly on 29th July, 2014.

[Signature]

Luisa Waye-Hive
Deputy Clerk
CONSOLIDATED TO 30 JUNE 2012

LAWS OF SEYCHELLES

CHAPTER 136

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF SEYCHELLES ACT

[15th October, 1990]

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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PART I - PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the National Arts Council of Seychelles Act.

2. In this Act -

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Council in terms of the Schedule;

"Council" means the National Arts Council of Seychelles established under this Act;

"member" means a member of the Council and includes the Chairman;

"Secretary" means the person appointed as Secretary of the Council under section 6;

"arts association" means a registered association of Seychelles for any artistic activity such as dance, literature, music, the plastic arts, theatre, visual arts of any kind and any other art activity approved by the Council.

PART II - THE COUNCIL

3. (1) There is established by this Act the National Arts Council of Seychelles which shall be a body corporate.

   (2) The Schedule applies with respect to the membership of the Council.

4. (1) The Council is the supreme body for coordinating the arts of all levels for all persons in Seychelles with the following functions-

   (a) to organise, develop and promote the arts in Seychelles;

   (b) to encourage the continuous participation in the arts in Seychelles;

   (c) to encourage and foster a spirit of cooperation and the attainment of high standards in the arts;

   (d) to encourage the appreciation and the development of the arts;

   (e) to coordinate calendars and programmes proposed by arts associations;
(f) to encourage and support participation in arts events abroad by persons and associations from Seychelles;

(g) to encourage and support participation in arts events in Seychelles by persons and association from abroad;

(h) to enter into and maintain relations with international organisations likely to grant financial, material or technical assistance for the development of the arts in Seychelles;

(i) to cooperate with international bodies and institute which are specialised in the arts, artistic research, education, or other artistic or related activities; and

(j) to provide advisory and information services to the Government and district authorities on any matters concerned with the foregoing objects.

(2) The Council may do anything which a body corporate may lawfully do and perform which is necessary or helpful to carry out its functions and, without prejudice to the foregoing and subject to this Act, may -

(a) provide advisory, information and educational services;

(b) provide assistance to persons association promoting or developing the arts in Seychelles;

(c) assist arts activities by providing facilities training, guidance and service to all bona fide artists of Seychelles;

(d) make grants for the promotion of the arts in Seychelles;

(e) establish committees to advise or assist it in performing its functions and to assist and coordinate arts associations in the performance of their functions;

(f) run enterprises for the manufacturing and sale of arts objects or to sell arts work and related materials;

(g) acquire, buy, sell, dispose of, rent or hire, exchange, pledge or mortgage any movable or immovable property or interest therein;

(h) subject to the approval of the Minister responsible for Finance, borrow money;

(i) accept gifts and donations;

(j) subject to the approval of the Minister responsible for Finance, make investments of money;

(k) subject to section 170 (lotteries) of the Penal Code, promote and run lotteries or other competitions to raise funds for the Council;

(l) make such charges for its services under this Act as it thinks fit; and
(m) undertake such other activities in furtherance of its functions as the Minister may allow.

PART III - PROCEDURE OF COUNCIL

5. (1) The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Council.

(2) The Council shall meet at such intervals as the members may decide, but not less frequently than once every 3 months.

(3) The Chairman may at any time and shall at the request in writing of 3 of the members and without delay, convene a special meeting of the Council.

(4) A notice convening a special meeting of the Council shall state the purposes for which it is convened.

(5) Except for a special meeting convened by the Chairman on his own initiatives, not less than 7 days notice of a meeting shall be given to members.

(6) 5 members who must include the Chairman, constitute a quorum.

(7) Questions before the Council shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and voting at the meeting, at which meeting each member shall have one vote.

(8) The Chairman has a deliberative vote and in the event of an equality of votes also has a casting vote.

(9) Subject to this Act, the Council shall regulate its meetings, proceedings and conduct as it thinks fit.

PART IV - THE SECRETARIAT

6. (1) The administration and work of the Council shall be carried out by a Secretariat directed by the Secretary.

(2) The Secretary and staff of the Secretariat shall be appointed by the Council on such terms and at such remuneration as may be determined by the Council.

(3) Remuneration payable under this section shall be paid by the Council.

(4) The Secretary shall be responsible to the Council for -

(a) subject to the general direction of the Council, the furtherance of the objects of the Council;

(b) the effective operation of the day to day activities of the Council;

(c) representing the Council in correspondence and in national and international contracts;

(d) drafting, communicating and filing minutes and all other documents of the Council;
(e) attending meetings of the Council;

(f) keeping the Council informed of the activities of the Secretariat particularly by presenting an activity report at each meeting of the Council and a financial report and statement of accounts prepared for each period of 3 months immediately preceding the date of the report.

(5) In exercise of its functions under the Act the Secretariat shall act in accordance with such directions as it may from time to time receive from the Council, it shall neither request nor accept instructions from any other person or body.

(6) The Council may provide for the training, development and discipline of the Secretariat.

PART V - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

7. The funds and property of the Council shall consist of -

(a) money appropriated by an Appropriation Act and paid to the Council;

(b) rights, interest, assets or liabilities of the Government vested in the Council under section 8;

(c) money paid to the Council by way of grants subsidies, donations, loans, fees, subscription, rents, repayments of principal, interest and royalties;

(d) profits from any arts enterprises run by the Council;

(e) money from arts activities organised under the patronage of or for the benefit of the Council;

(f) money derived from the sale of property held by or on behalf of the Council;

(g) sums due on any investment made by the Council;

(h) other money and property lawfully received by the Council for the purposes of the Council; and

(i) accumulations of income derived from any money or property of the Council.

8. (1) The President may authorise the vesting in the Council of any rights, interests, assets or liabilities of the Government.

(2) The Minister shall thereafter take any further action necessary to vest in or transfer to the Council any rights, interests, assets or liabilities authorised to be vested under subsection (1) and any titles thereto.

(3) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, where under subsection (1) the President has authorised the vesting in the Council of a loan to the Government, the Minister shall have power subject to the terms of the loan, to assign the loan to the Council.

9. The funds and property of the Council may be used -
(a) for the expenses of the Council under this Act;
(b) for the expenses, inside or outside Seychelles of artists and arts activities approved by the Council;
(c) for the expenses of arts associations.

10. (1) All money belonging to the Council shall, as soon as practicable after it has come into the hands of the Secretary or other person authorised to receive money on behalf of the Council, be paid into a bank account in the name of the Council.

(2) No money shall be withdrawn from the bank account except on the signature of the Secretary and one member of the Council.

11. (1) The financial year of the Council shall end on 31st December in each year.

(2) The Minister responsible for Finance may amend subsection (1) by order in the Gazette.

12. (1) For each financial year the Council shall prepare and submit to the Minister and to the Minister responsible for Finance, not later than such date as the Minister directs, estimates of the income and expenditure of the Council including its capital budget for the coming financial year and for any longer period required by the Minister.

(2) The Council shall cause to be kept proper books and records in account of its income, expenditure, assets and liabilities.

(3) Where funds have been received by the Council for a specific purpose estimates and accounts of the Council shall show the application of the funds.

13. (1) At the end of each financial year the accounts of the Council shall be audited by an auditor appointed by the Minister responsible for Finance after consultation with the Council.

(2) The auditor shall satisfy himself that the accounts of the Council have been properly prepared in accordance with sound accounting principles and he shall either -

(a) state in his report that -

(i) the accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with the books and records of the Council;

(ii) the books and records of the Council have been properly kept and contain information adequate for the purposes of his audit;

(iii) the balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts of the Council are a true and fair view of the Council's financial positions; and

(iv) the financial affairs of the Council have been properly conducted; or
(b) notify the Minister responsible for Finance that he is unable to complete his report as provided in paragraph (a) giving his reasons therefor.

(3) The auditor shall submit his report to the Minister responsible for Finance and shall forward a copy of his report to the Council.

14. (1) Within 6 months of the end of the financial year the Council shall submit -

(a) to the Minister an Annual Report dealing with the activities of the Council during that year; and

(b) to the Minister and the Minister responsible for Finance the accounts of the Council for that year audited in terms of section 13.

(2) The Council shall publish the Annual Report, accounts and auditor's report.

15. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Council is exempt from

(a) tax under the Business Tax Act;

(b) all other taxes, duties, fees, rates, or other imposts under any law on its assets, profits, operations and property, or on grants, gifts or other transfers.

(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the Council in respect of arts enterprises run by the Council under section 4(2)(f) or similar commercial activities.

(3) The Minister may, whether for the purpose of removing doubt as to the extent of this section or for the purpose of extending the immunities of the Council by order in the Gazette specify any tax, duty, fee, rate or other impost as one to which the Council shall not be liable and the law relating thereto shall have effect accordingly.

PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS

16. The Minister may make regulations;

(a) for the better carrying out the objects and purpose of this Act;

(b) amending the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

1. The Members of the Council are -

(a) The Minister or his delegate (Chairman);

(b) 15 other members appointed by the Minister.
2. A member appointed by the Minister is appointed for a term of 2 years and on ceasing to be a member, is eligible for re-appointment.

3. The Council may propose the replacement of a member appointed by the Minister if he is absent without the permission of the Council from 3 consecutive meetings of the Council of which he has had notice in terms of Section 5(5).

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NO SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Establishment of the National Monuments Board.
4. Powers and duties of Board.
5. Declaration of national monuments.
6. Notification of discoveries and Board's option to acquire ownership.
7. No excavation without consent of Board.
8. No alteration or removal without consent of Board.
9. Offences and penalties.
10. Regulations.
11. Seal of the Board.
12. Funds.
13. The financial year.
15. Staff.
1. This Act may be cited as the National Monuments Act.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

   "ancient monument" means any building, ruin, pillar, statue, grave or other site or thing of a similar kind, or any remains thereof, which is known or believed to have been erected, constructed or used before 1st January, 1900;

   "Board" means the Board established under section 3;

   "monument" means -
   
   (a) any ancient or national monument;
   
   (b) any area of land which is of archaeological or historical interest or which contains objects of such interest;
   
   (c) any old building or other structure;
   
   (d) any other object (whether natural or constructed by man) of aesthetic, archaeological, historical or scientific value or interest;

   "national monument" means any monument declared to be a national monument under section 5;

   "relic" means -
   
   (a) any fossil of any kind;
   
   (b) any object of aesthetic, archaeological, historical or scientific value or interest;
   
   (c) any anthropological or archaeological contents of any monument.

3. (1) There is hereby established a board, to be known as the National Monuments Board, which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.

   (2) The Board shall consist of a Chairman and four other members appointed by the Minister by Notice published in the Gazette for such period as may be prescribed.

   (3) The Chairman and members of the National Monuments Board holding office immediately before the coming into operation of this section shall be deemed to be the Board duly appointed under subsection (2).

4. (1) The Board may -

   (a) make a list of all monuments whose declarations as national monuments it considers desirable;

   (b) take steps to ascertain the owner of any such monument;
(c) recommend to the Minister the declaration of any monument as a national monument;

(d) purchase or otherwise acquire any monument or relic;

(e) assume control over any monument or relic if so requested by the person having ownership or control thereof, and accept any such monument or relic which the owner thereof desires to give or has bequeathed to the Government;

(f) preserve, repair, restore or insure any monument, whether or not it is owned by it or is under its control;

(g) lend any relic to any museum or other public institution;

(h) undertake the excavation of any ancient monument and authorize any act it may deem necessary for the excavation, exploration or safe preservation of any ancient monument or relic wherever situate or found or by whosoever owned or controlled;

(i) erect or cause to be erected tablets in suitable places giving information about historical events which occurred at such places;

(j) through any of its members, have reasonable access at all time to any monument or relic;

(k) subject to the rights of any owner or occupier of property, do such things as may be necessary to facilitate the access of the public to any relic or monument which is owned or controlled by the Board or the Government;

(l) make provision for catering facilities within any area or place which has been declared to be a national monument;

(m) raise funds for the purpose of achieving its objects under the Act; and

(n) with the approval of the Ministries responsible for Culture and Land Use, permit persons to commercially exploit State owned national monuments under the terms of an agreement made in that behalf.

(2) The Board shall -

(a) when required by the Minister, investigate and report on any matter relating to any monument or relic and upon the desirability of declaring any monument to be a national monument;

(b) on or before 1st March in every year furnish to the Minister, for presentation to the People's Assembly, a report upon its work during the immediately preceding year ending 31st December, and on any other matters connected with the preservation of monuments and relics which it may wish to bring to the attention of the Minister;

(c) make and maintain a register of all monuments and relics which it has acquired or which has been brought to its notice.
5. (1) The Minister may, on the recommendation of the Board, by order published in the *Gazette*, declare any monument to be a national monument, and in like manner declare that an existing national monument shall cease to be a national monument.

(2) If a monument is situate on land not belonging to the Government, a declaration shall be made in accordance with the following procedure -

(a) at least one month before recommending to the Minister the declaration of any monument which does not belong to the Government, the Board shall notify the owner thereof in writing that it proposes to make such recommendation and such owner may thereupon lodge with the Board objections in writing to the proposal;

(b) in making its recommendation, the Board shall submit to the Minister proof that such notice was sent to the owner by registered post to his last known address, and shall also transmit to the Minister any objections which may have been lodged against such recommendation.

6. (1) The discovery of any ancient monument or relic shall be discoveries notified in writing to the Board without delay by the Board's discoverer thereof and also by the owner or occupier of the land on which such ancient monument or relic is discovered upon the discovery coming to his notice.

(2) On receipt of a notice under subsection (1), the Board shall have right of option to acquire the ownership of the ancient monument or relic so discovered upon payment to the owner thereof of a sum of money to be agreed upon as fair and reasonable compensation, or, failing agreement, by reference to an arbitrator appointed by the Supreme Court.

(3) If within 6 months after receipt of the first notice of discovery under subsection (1) the Board has failed to notify the owner of the ancient monument or relic that it intends to exercise its right of option, such right of option shall lapse.

7. No person shall, without the written consent of the Board and subject to such conditions as it may impose or as may be prescribed, excavate any ancient monument.

8. (1) No person shall, without the written consent of the Board, -

(a) make any alteration to, destroy or damage;

(b) move from its original site or export from Seychelles; or

(c) carry out any cultivation or other work so as to cause or be likely to cause injury or disturbance to,

any ancient monument, national monument or relic, or any part thereof.

(2) Any person who wishes to remove from its original site or to export from Seychelles any ancient monument, national monument or relic or any part thereof, shall when applying to the Board for its consent, supply the Board with a photograph or drawing of the monument or relic or part thereof and shall state the exact locality in which it is situate and the place to which and the purpose for which he wishes to remove or export it.

9. (1) Any person who -
(a) defaces, damages or destroys any tablet erected by the Board under section 4(i);

(b) contravenes section 6, 7 or 8;

(c) in any application to the Board for its consent under section 7 or 8, makes any statement which is false in any material respect or supplies any photograph or drawing which is false in any material particular,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of R.5,000 and to imprisonment for 2 years.

(2) If any person is convicted of an offence under this Act which has resulted in any damage to, destruction or removal of, any ancient monument, national monument or relic or any part thereof or any tablet erected by the Board, the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed, order him to pay to the Board such sum as the court may determine for the purpose of repairing such damage or for the value of any article or thing removed or destroyed and may, in the case of any article which has been removed and which is still in the possession of any person, order such person to restore such article to the Board.

10. The Minister may, on the advice of the Board, make regulations for the better carrying out of the purposes and provisions of this Act and in particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing may make regulations -

(a) regulating the access of the public to any monument or relic which is the property of the Government or the Board or which is held or controlled by the Board with the agreement of the owner;

(b) prescribing fees which shall be payable for such access;

(c) safeguarding national monuments, ancient monuments, tablets and relics from disfigurement, alteration, destruction, damage or export;

(d) regulating the excavation of monuments, or prohibiting or regulating any specific act in or in respect of any monument; and

(e) regulating the meetings, proceedings and conduct of business of the Board.

11. (1) The seal of the Board shall be in the custody of the Board.

(2) The seal of the Board may be altered in such manner as may be determined by the Board.

(3) The seal of the Board shall not be affixed by any instrument except in the presence of two members of the Board and the Chairman all of whom shall sign the instrument in token of their presence.

12. (1) All moneys belonging to the Board shall be paid into a bank account in the name of the Board.

(2) There shall be paid into the bank account of the Board -

(a) all such sums of money as may be voted from time to time by the National Assembly for the use of the Board;

(b) all sums of money received by the Board in the exercise, performance and discharge of its powers, duties and functions;
(c) all such sums of money as may be received by the Board by way of loans, donations, gifts or grants.

(3) There shall be paid out of the moneys belonging to the Board all sums of money required to defray any expenditure incurred by the Board in the exercise and discharge of its powers and functions under the Act and all such sums of money as are required or authorised to be paid out of the moneys of the Board.

13. The financial year of the Board shall be the calendar year.

14. (1) The Board shall cause to be kept proper books and records in relation thereto in which all financial transactions of the Board shall be recorded.

(2) The accounts of the Board shall be audited by an auditor who is qualified under section 157 of the Companies Act and is appointed by the Board.

15. The Board may appoint such staff as may be necessary on such terms and conditions as it may determine.

16. (1) The income of the Board shall be exempt from any tax imposed under the Business Tax Act.

(2) All legacies and donations for the benefit of the Board shall be exempt from stamp duty under the Stamp Duty Act.
The monuments in the Schedule are declared to be national monuments.

SCHEDULE

1. Bel Air Cemetery, Victoria
2. Botanical Gardens, Victoria
3. Freedom Square, Victoria
4. Large Granite Boulders, L’Union, La Digue
5. Mission Ruins, Mission, Mahé
6. State House Cemetery, (Ex-Mont du Pavillon), State House, Victoria
7. Ex-Doctor’s House, Curieuse
8. La Bastille Building, Mahé
9. Ex-Nageon’s House, Pointe Larue
10. Plantation House, L’Union, La Digue
11. Les Palmes Theatre, Victoria
12. Maison Du Peuple, Victoria
13. National Library Building, Victoria
14. Plantation House, La Passe, Silhouette
15. State House, Victoria
16. Supreme Court Building, Victoria
17. Plantation House, Farquhar
18. Bicentennial Monument, Victoria
19. Clock Tower, Victoria
20. Diamond Jubilee Fountain, Victoria
21. Liberation Monument (Zonm Lib), Victoria
22. Pierre Poivre Bust, Victoria
23. Roman Catholic Priests’ Residence at Victoria
24. St. Paul’s Cathedral at Victoria
25. “Kenwyn” House (house of Manager Engineer of Cable and Wireless Ltd.) at Victoria
26. Ex-Sans Souci (House 1776), Sans Souci
27. Ex-Chateau des Mamelles, Les Mamelles, Mahé
28. Beauvoir Cemetery, La Misère, Mahé
29. Cascade Catholic Church, Cascade, Mahé
30. Ex-Plantation House, La Plaine, Anse Aux Pins
31. Anse Boudin Catholic Church, Anse Boudin, Praslin
32. Baie Ste Anne Catholic Church, Baie Ste Anne, Praslin
33. La Digue Catholic Church, La Digue
34. Seychelles People’s United Party Museum, Francis Rachel Street
35. Miray Demon, Anse des Genêts, Mahé
36. Kreol Institute building, Au Cap, Mahé
37. Grann Kaz of Domaine de Val de Près, Au Cap, Mahé
38. Ros Payanke or Ros Koson, Anse Louis, Mahé
39. Ros Leskalye, Port Launay, Mahé
40. Eustache Sardes’ House, La Digue
41. Dauban Mausoleum, Silhouette
42. Trou Sodyer, Pte Le Roi, Takamaka, Mahé
43. Gregoire Payet’s House, Anse Reunion, La Digue.

44. Victoria Harbour Lighthouse

45. Le Grand Trianon-Marie An
CONSOLIDATED TO 30 JUNE 2012

LAWS OF SEYCHELLES

CHAPTER 211

SEYCHELLES ARCHIVES ACT

[7th November 1964]

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Establishment of the Seychelles Archives.
4. Appointment of Curator.
5. Establishment of Committee of Trustees and Records Committee.
8. Delivery of copy of every newspaper, book etc. printed in Seychelles.
10. Curator may deliver copies, etc.
11. Regulations.

-------------------

1. This Act may be cited as the Seychelles Archives Act.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires -

"Committee of Trustees" means the Committee of Trustees established in terms of section 5;

"Curator" means the officer in charge of the Seychelles Archives appointed in terms of section 4;

"Government" means the Government of Seychelles;

"local authority" means a Local Board of Health constituted under the Public Health Act, or a District Council constituted under the Local Government Act;

"prescribed" means prescribed by regulations made under this Act;
"public archives" means -

(a) all records which -

(i) are more than thirty years old; and

(ii) are specified by the Records Committee as being of enduring or historical value; and

(iii) are in the custody of or are transferred to the Seychelles Archives;

(b) any printed Government publication in the custody of or transferred to the Seychelles Archives;

c) any document, book or other material acquired for the Seychelles Archives by the Curator in terms of paragraph (g) of section 4;

(d) any document, other than records, having enduring or historical value which may be deposited temporarily or permanently in the Seychelles Archives;

"records" means records or documents belonging to any Government department or to any local authority which -

(a) are in the custody of such Government department or local authority; or

(b) are in the custody of or are transferred to the Seychelles Archives;

"Records Committee" means the Records Committee established in terms of section 5;

"Seychelles Archives" means the Seychelles Archives established in terms of section 3.

3. There is hereby established the Seychelles Archives wherein shall be preserved and stored public archives and such records as may be in its custody or transferred to it.

4. The President shall appoint a Curator of the Seychelles Archives who -

(a) shall direct, manage and control the Seychelles Archives;

(b) shall, at the request of a Government department or of a local authority, examine any records in the custody of such department or local authority and shall advise such department or local authority as to the care and custody thereof;

(c) shall ensure the physical protection, storage and arrangement of all public archives and of any records in the custody of the Seychelles Archives;

(d) shall accept and store any records which are transferred to the Seychelles Archives;

(e) may, if in his opinion it is necessary for their better preservation, bind or repair any public archives and any records which are in the custody of the Seychelles Archives;
(f) may, subject to the terms and conditions, if any, on which they were acquired, reproduce or publish any public archives the reproduction or publication of which Government has, with the consent of the owner thereof authorised;

(g) may, subject to the approval of Government, acquire by purchase, donation, bequest or otherwise any document, book or other material which in the opinion of the Curator is or is likely to be of historical value, or otherwise of public interest;

(h) may pay for any document, book or material purchased as in paragraph (g) and for the transcribing, binding and repairing thereof as well as of any public archives and records which are in the custody of the Seychelles Archives if in his opinion this is necessary for their better preservation;

(i) may, subject to the consent of the Committee of Trustees, lend items from the Seychelles Archives to other institutions.

5. There is hereby established -

(a) a Committee of Trustees which shall consist of three or more persons appointed by the Minister to advise the Curator on matters of general policy concerning the Seychelles Archives, and to ensure their safety in the event of the death, resignation or removal of the Curator pending the appointment of a successor;

(b) a Records Committee which shall consist of the Curator and of such other persons as may be appointed by the Minister one of whom shall be chosen from the members of the Committee of Trustees. The Records Committee shall make recommendations to Government as to -

(i) the retention or destruction of records;

(ii) the transfer of records to the Seychelles Archives;

(iii) the classification of records for any of the purposes mentioned in paragraphs (i) and (ii); and

(iv) any other matters which may be prescribed,

and shall specify those records which in its opinion are of enduring or historical value.

6. Any person may inspect public archives during such hour as may be fixed by the Minister subject to such conditions or limitations as may be prescribed or as may be imposed by the person from whom they were acquired.

7 (1) No person may reproduce the whole or any part of the contents of any public archives or records which are in the archives custody of the Seychelles Archives, other than those which may be prescribed, without the written permission of Government and when such permission has been granted only in strict compliance with any conditions or limitations which Government may impose.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) or contravenes or fails to comply with any conditions or limitations therein referred to shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred rupees.
8 (1) The publisher of every newspaper, periodical, book or copy of every bound pamphlet printed in Seychelles shall, as soon after such newspaper, periodical, book or bound pamphlet is published, deliver one copy direct or by post to the Curator free of charge.

(2) Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable to fine not exceeding five hundred rupees.

9. Any person may deposit either temporarily or permanently in the Seychelles Archives any private document provided the Curator considered such document to be of sufficient archival value.

10. The Curator may deliver copies, replicas or extracts authenticated by him of public archives.

11 (1) The Minister may make regulations generally for the purpose of carrying out or giving effect to the objects and provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provision such regulations may provide for -

(a) the care and management of the Seychelles Archives;

(b) the steps to be taken for the examination, disposal or destruction of any records which are not of sufficient value to justify their preservation;

(c) the transfer of any records from the custody of any Government department or local authority to the Seychelles Archives;

(d) the conditions under which persons may deposit private documents in the Seychelles Archives;

(e) the fees to be paid for making searches, for making use of public archives and for obtaining copies of public archives or replicas thereof;

(f) the publication of any public archives;

(g) the preservation and protection of public archives and records in the Seychelles Archives and the conduct of visitors thereto; and

(h) anything requiring to be prescribed under this Act.

(3) Such regulations may provide that contravention of or failure to comply with any such regulation shall be an offence and may prescribe the maximum penalties for such offences, in any case the maximum not to exceed a fine of five hundred rupees and a period of six months imprisonment.
THE SEYCHELLES ARCHIVES (TRANSFER OF RECORDS) REGULATIONS

[29th March, 1965]

1. These regulations may be cited as the Seychelles Archives (Transfer of Records) Regulations.

2. The civil status registers and other records listed in the schedule to these regulations shall be transferred from the custody of the Chief Officer of the Civil Status or other civil status officer in which they are into the custody of the Seychelles Archives.

3. (1) All civil status registers of deaths, marriages and marriages in articulo mortis in the custody of the civil status officer at Anse Royale, Praslin and La Digue which have been closed and which relate to any year more than 25 years ago shall be transferred to the Seychelles Archives.

   (2) This regulation shall remain operative at all times and registers which from time to time come to fall within the category of registers described in the preceding paragraph shall be transferred to the Seychelles Archives.

SCHEDULE

List of civil status registers and other records to be transferred to the Seychelles Archives.

VICTORIA, NORTH MAHÉ & SOUTH MAHÉ

Marriages

Registers for 1841 to 1849, 1849 to 1855, 1856 to 1893.

Marriages in Articulo Mortis

Registers for 1877, 1879 to 1881, 1883 to 1887.

Divorce

Registers for 1883 to 1892.

Deaths
Registers for 1856 to 1893 (Except 1879, 1886 and 1887).

**Births**

Registers for 1856 to 1893.

**PRASLIN**

**Births**

Registers for 1874 to 1881, 1883 to 1885, 1887, 1890 Vol. I, 1891 to 1893.

**Marriages**

Registers for 1878 to 1879, 1882, 1885 to 1891, 1893.

**Marriages in Articulo Mortis**

Registers for 1879, 1887 to 1889, 1891 to 1893.

**Deaths**

Registers for 1875, 1882, 1886, 1889, 1890 to 1893.

**LA DIGUE**

**Births**

Registers for 1874, 1876 to 1877, 1879 to 1886.

**Marriages**

Registers for 1876, 1880 to 1886, 1892 to 1893.

**Deaths**

Registers for 1883 to 1885, 1887 to 1888, 1892.

**DECENNIAL INDICES**

**Deaths for Seychelles** 1863 to 1872, 1873 to 1882.

**Deaths for Central and North Mahe** © 1883 to 1892, 1893 to 1912, 1913 to 1922, 1923 to 1932.

**Births for Central and North Mahe** © 1856 to 1862, 1883 to 1912, 1913 to 1922, 1923 to 1932.

**Marriages for Central and North Mahe** © 1923 to 1932.

........................................
Seychelles’ National Disaster Risk Management Policy

Building the Resilience of a Country and Communities to Disaster

Division of Risk and Disaster Management

Department of Environment
Forward

The primary responsibility for disaster risk management in the Republic of Seychelles rests with the government. The first Principle of State Policy, according to the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles requires the state to actively promote the welfare of its people. In terms “At a time of national disaster or during a state of national defence or public emergency threatening the life of the nation or the constitutional order, the President may by Proclamation in the Gazette declare that a state of emergency exists in Seychelles or part thereof.”

The Constitution states that “During a state of emergency in terms of this Article or when a state of national defence prevails, the President shall have the power by Proclamation to make such regulations as in his or her opinion are necessary for the protection of national security, public safety and the maintenance of law and order.”

The National Disaster Risk Management Policy pursues the above-mentioned constitutional obligations. The policy seeks to outline a comprehensible, transparent and inclusive policy on disaster risk management appropriate for the Government of the Republic of Seychelles within the four phases of disaster risk management continuum, adopting the following approaches. Seychelles has adopted a comprehensive, integrated approach to the management of emergencies and disasters. This approach is:

• **Comprehensive**, encompassing all hazards and recognizing that dealing with the risks to community safety requires a range of activities to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from any emergency; and

• **Integrated**, ensuring the involvement of governments, all relevant organizations and agencies, private sector, NGO, Faith Base organization and the community. The goal of all such arrangements and programs is to contribute to the development and maintenance of a disaster and emergency ready Seychellois community.

• **All Hazard**
  Dealing with all types of emergencies/disasters that may impact on communities and the environment using the same set of management arrangements and includes both natural and man-made hazards.

The policy gives effect to various rights contained in the International Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms. These include the right to life, equality, human dignity, and a safe environment, the protection of property, health care, food, water, social security and safety nets.
The goal of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy is to contribute to the attainment of sustainable development in line with Seychelles Vision 2020 through strengthening of national capacities to reduce risk and build community resilience to disasters.

**The National Disaster Risk Management Policy aims to:**

- Minimise the loss of human life, property, livelihood and damage to the environment from hazards of natural, geological, technological, biological and ecological origin;
- Advocate an approach to disaster risk management that focuses on reducing risks especially to those sections of the population who are most vulnerable
- Advocate for a shared awareness and responsibility to reduce disaster risk in homes, communities, places of work and in society generally;
- Give effect to the application of co-operative governance on issues concerning disasters and disaster risk management among all levels of government and allocate responsibilities in this regard to the relevant stakeholders.
- Facilitate the involvement of the private sector, non-governmental organisations, communities and volunteers in disaster risk management; and to
- Facilitate partnerships in this regard between organs of state and the private sector, non-governmental organisations and communities;

The approach of the Seychellois National Disaster Risk Management Policy involves a shift away from a perception that disasters are rare occurrences managed by emergency rescue and support services. This approach requires a significantly improved capacity for early warning and for tracking, monitoring/surveillance and disseminating information on phenomena and activities that trigger events. The policy considers existing coping mechanisms of vulnerable communities, households and individuals by advocating the enhancement of coping capacities in the affected communities. It also calls for improved institutional emergency preparedness and response capacity at local, regional and national levels and implies an increased commitment to strategies to prevent disasters and mitigate their severity.
Preface

Disaster loss have grave consequences on the survival, dignity and livelihood of individuals, particularly the most vulnerable due to their level of exposure related to technological and socio-economic conditions. The vulnerability can be attributed to factors like, environmental degradation, climate variability, climate change, geological, biological, technological and societal hazards, and the impact of epidemics such as HIV/AIDS. These factors indicate a future where disasters could increasingly threaten the national economy, its population and sustainable development.

The National Disaster Risk Management Policy offers an alternative to disaster management that seeks to address the root causes of disasters through reducing the exposure and vulnerability of people and economic assets in order to reduce losses. Cost effective disaster risk management requires the ability to identify hazards, who or what will be exposed assess the risk and what vulnerabilities will lead to those assets being damaged or destroyed. Disaster risk management, therefore, depends not only on identifying the consequences of disasters but also on addressing the underlying causes. These causes need to be made visible and real so that the risks can be perceived, understood and reduced.

Integrating disaster risk reduction initiatives into development and poverty reduction programmes and the routine activities of all sectors at the three levels of government in Seychelles on an ongoing basis, forms the basis of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy.
### Acronyms and Abbreviation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental Organisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRM</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDRM</td>
<td>National Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDRMS</td>
<td>National Disaster Risk Management System</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDS</td>
<td>National Disaster Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRMS</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Management System</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDRMC</td>
<td>National Disaster Risk Management Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRDM</td>
<td>Division of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
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<td>NFPF</td>
<td>National Focal Persons Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>SezVAC</td>
<td>Seychelles Vulnerability Assessment committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDRMS</td>
<td>District Disaster Risk Management Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>OMAS</td>
<td>Offices, Ministries and Agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRM</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNISDR</td>
<td>United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPAs</td>
<td>Key Performance Areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPIs</td>
<td>Key Performance Indicators</td>
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<td>SRM</td>
<td>Social Risk Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAP</td>
<td>National Action Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>IOC</td>
<td>Indian Ocean Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIS</td>
<td>Geographical Information System</td>
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**SHIES** - Seychelles Household Income Expenditure Surveys

**NDRMPF** - National Disaster Risk Management Planning Framework

**NIMCS** - National Information Management and Communication Systems

**NAPCD** - National Action Plan for Capacity Development

**ISDR** - International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

**MOUs** - Memoranda of Understanding

**SOPs** - Standard Operational Procedures

**EWS** - Early Warning System

**CBDRMCs** - Community Based Disaster Risk Management Committees

**JOT** - Joint Operations Team

**RH** - Reproductive Health

**GBV** - Gender Based Violence

**GOS** - Government of Seychelles

**GPS** - Global Positioning System

**TOR** - Term of Reference

**ICT** - Information and Communication Technology

**RCSS** - Red Cross Society of Seychelles

**IFRC** - International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

**INGOs** - International Non-Governmental Organisations

**NDF** - National Disaster Fund

**NDC** - National Disaster Committee

**DRR** - Disaster Risk Reduction
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#### 6.1 National Disaster Risk Management Fund

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A policy for Disaster Risk Management for Seychelles

1. Introduction

1.1 Preamble

In pursuance of the Government of Seychelles constitutional mandate to actively promote the welfare of the Seychellois people, the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy of the Republic of Seychelles gives effect to the global paradigm shift away from the approach of responding to disasters after they have occurred to one of total disaster risk management. The shift to total disaster risk management, which has taken place internationally, regionally and sub-regionally over the past two decades, involves managing disaster risk holistically on a continuous basis. The aim of this changed approach is to reduce the impacts of and increase the resilience to natural hazards and related environmental, technological and biological disasters. The approach focuses on minimising vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society by building resilience within the broad context of sustainable development.

It is in this context therefore that this policy aligns itself with:

- The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to disaster which was adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan in 2005;

- The Kyoto Protocol which is an agreement made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other international frameworks for disaster risks associated with climate change;

- The Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction— which aims to contribute to the attainment of sustainable development and poverty reduction by facilitating the integration of disaster risk reduction into development; and

Taking into account:
Disasters put development at risk
Human development if adequately conceived does not create new hazards. Instead of choices being made that generate new disaster risk, development choices made by individuals, communities and government must contribute to a reduction of disaster risk.

Disasters are known to disproportionately affect poor people the most
Disasters increase the vulnerability of the poor, overstretching their coping capacities, deepening their poverty and preventing them from taking advantage of economic opportunities. Disaster risk reduction measures must focus on economic and social upliftment and on building resilience.

Disasters can be a trigger for food insecurity and causes human losses and hardship, constrain progress, damage and destroy infrastructure and the environment.

The increasing threat of disasters coincides with the growing recognition that progress towards the sustainable development may be hindered. Efforts to address risks that constrain progress are required. Damage to housing, service infrastructure, savings, productive assets and human losses reduce livelihood sustainability and push vulnerable households into long-term poverty and increased inequality (MDG1). Disasters can destroy educational infrastructure (MDG2), disadvantage women and girls (MDG3), destroy health infrastructure (related to MDGs 4, 5 and 6) and can result in funds being diverted from development to humanitarian/relief support.

Disasters often damage environmental resources affecting environmental sustainability (MDG7)
Disasters exacerbate deforestation and soil erosion. Both natural and technological disasters increase the likelihood of pollution. Disaster risk, including climate change-induced disaster risk, is intimately connected to processes of human development.

Disaster relief/humanitarian assistance sub-serves the goals of national development
While humanitarian assistance/relief is important, the focus should be to contribute to sustainable development through anticipatory planning approaches and not to make people dependent on welfare. Humanitarian assistance programmes should therefore be implemented within the sustainable development framework of the country.

Developing capacities to deal with existing disaster risk is an effective way to generate capacity to deal with future climate change risk
Climate related risk, aggravated by processes of global economic and climate change poses a central unresolved development issue for many countries. In line with Hyogo Framework of Action and the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction that
emphasise Disaster Risk Reduction, it is recognised that developing capacities that deal with existing disaster risks is an effective way to generate capacity to deal with future climate change risk.

**Disaster risk management is a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary responsibility**

It is important that the reduction of risks be viewed as a shared responsibility requiring a continuous series of endeavours pursued across social, economic, governmental and professional sectors of activity. Instead of being understood as a specialisation of security, emergency services or experts, comprehensive disaster risk management needs to involve many segments of society – starting with those members of the public who are themselves most exposed to anticipated hazards. This understanding is essential if communities are to become more resilient to the effects of hazards so that disaster losses can be reduced in coming years.

**Good disaster risk reduction strategies incorporate strong public/private sector partnerships**

Good disaster risk reduction strategies incorporate strong public/private sector partnerships. This requires macroeconomic policies and regulatory reforms being reviewed to enhance the private sector role. A positive enabling environment for doing business that enhances domestic enterprises and foreign investors is paramount. An environment of increased financial and corporate transparency and conditions that promote competition are required for private sector partners to play a positive role and not a destabilising role that can increase risk.

**Participation and ownership is core to effective disaster risk management**

Popular participation is a principle for sustainable livelihood security. Disaster risk management implementation requires the full participation and ownership of all role players/stakeholders in the activities aimed at reducing risk in both the short and long term.

**Capacity development is a prerequisite for successful disaster risk reduction**

Capacity development is more than training and organisational strengthening. Key challenges (obstacles and opportunities) lie within the enabling environment and concern policy and governance. These demand different interventions and responses than those traditionally found in the capacity development toolbox. They are as much about building ownership, changing systems, and creating an enabling environment in which disaster risk management can occur, as they are about technology transfer, skills development and organisational strengthening.
Gender relations affect how people experience disasters and how disasters impact people in general

Mainstreaming gender in disaster risk management is a pivotal component of disaster risk management implementation. It is the process of fully considering and integrating the concerns of women and men in policies and programmes to prevent and mitigate disasters.

Enhancing gender aspects involves increasing women’s participation in disaster risk reduction to improve their chances of survival and their resilience to livelihood risks. It also involves balancing the entitlements and responsibilities of both males and females in the disaster risk reduction process. The parameters must be changed in order to significantly and equitably change women’s options and opportunities by ensuring equality of opportunity and of outcomes in disaster reduction interventions.

HIV/AIDS impacts negatively on human development

The debilitating impact of HIV/AIDS on human development is recognised as a long-term problem. HIV/AIDS is viewed as a hazard and a disaster. Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into risk management initiatives is a fundamental disaster risk management policy issue

The allocation and mobilisation of resources is fundamental to the development, establishment and implementation of national disaster risk management policy

The allocation and mobilisation of resources for disaster risk management is a funding priority. Constitutionally the National Government must actively promote the welfare of its people and therefore has a duty to ensure their well-being before, during and after any disaster.

The involvement of other development agencies including UN agencies, donors and nongovernmental organisations adds value to a national disaster risk management system

Development agencies including UN agencies, donors and nongovernmental organisations have much to contribute in terms of technical, financial and material support for disaster risk management. They have experience of disaster risk management in other countries. Such experience will assist in developing programmes that effectively enhance community resilience to disasters in the long term. The disaster risk management policy must be guided by the best practices in disaster risk management that such development partners have adopted.
2. **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY IS GROUNDED**

The National Disaster Risk Management Policy is grounded on five fundamental principles:

2.1 **Fundamental human rights and freedoms**
The Disaster Risk Management Policy shall uphold the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms, respect of human dignity, equality and freedom from discrimination in accordance with Articles of the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles.

2.2 **Humanitarian principles and codes of practices for humanitarian assistance**
The policy shall respect the right of citizens to receive humanitarian assistance, and for Government to offer in accordance with international laws, the humanitarian principles promoted by the United Nations, the Sphere Standard. In rendering humanitarian assistance, people shall be treated humanely and with respect in all circumstances irrespective of gender, creed, race or political affiliation. The policy must seek to reduce disaster risks at all levels with the primary aim of saving lives and alleviating suffering.

2.3 **The shift towards disaster risk reduction**
The Government of the Republic of Seychelles has adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action and the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction both of which underline the paradigm shift in the approach to disasters and dealing with disasters by moving away from emergency response only to integrating disaster risk reduction into development. At all levels, policies and strategies must be implemented with a twofold aim - firstly to build resilience in communities to the impacts of all hazards and secondly to ensure that development efforts do not increase vulnerability to hazards.

2.4 **Protecting sustainable development gains of Seychelles by mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development**
Through Vision 2020, Seychelles strives to a prosperous and industrialised nation, developed by her human resources, enjoying peace, harmony and political stability. To protect and enhance development gains for prosperity and industrialisation, disaster risk reduction must be integrated into development policies, strategies and programmes.
2.5 Sustainable ecosystem and environmental management
The policy must support the principle that a healthy environment enhances society’s disaster resilience by reducing the impact of disasters and that environmental degradation on the other hand, increases the risk of disaster from landslides, floods, droughts, climate change impacts and other hazards.

3.0 Hazard Impact

Islands are often shaped by their remoteness, or insularity, which develops ecologies and cultures that are usually unique to their location. Islands tend to have fragile environments, fragile economies, and are highly vulnerable to some of the most devastating hydrometeorological and geological disasters.

3.1 Vulnerability of Seychelles

The vulnerability of Seychelles to that of natural, biological and technological hazard is very much apparent. It has intrinsic economic, economic, environmental and social vulnerability due to its small size, limited natural resources base, significant competition for land use and high level of major economic sectors on the natural environment, fragile eco-systems, coupled with limited institutional capacity and low levels of insurance coverage.

Being a small island state as well as coastal states with a high concentration of people as well as infrastructure located on the coast further increase the country’s vulnerability to hydro- meteorological events and climate change. Natural hazard, continue to be the main threat that may have an inordinate impact on the Seychelles economy.
4. THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT, GOAL, STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Policy statement
The National Disaster Risk Management Policy (NDRM) of the Republic of Seychelles is the instrument which gives direction and defines the parameters for the application of the concept of total disaster risk management within the established National Disaster Risk Management System in Seychelles.

4.2 Policy goal
The goal of the NDRM Policy for the Republic of Seychelles is:

To contribute to the attainment of sustainable development in line with Seychelles’ Vision 2020 through strengthening national capacities to significantly reduce disaster risk and build community resilience to disasters.

4.3 Policy strategies
In pursuance of the goal of the NDRM Policy, the following broad strategies must be applied:

• The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning at all levels.
• The strengthening of disaster risk management structures, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards at national, regional, constituency and community levels.
• The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes.
• The building of multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels to contribute to the implementation of total disaster risk management.
Policy Objective 1:

Make disaster risk reduction a priority at all levels in Seychelles by establishing sound, integrated, and functional legal and institutional capacity within the established National Disaster Risk Management System, to enable the effective application of the concept of total disaster risk management.

Policy Objective 2:

Develop and implement method, mechanism for risk identification, assessment and monitoring in Seychelles.

Policy Objective 3:

Reduce the underlying risk and vulnerability factors by improving disaster risk management applications at all levels.

Policy Objective 4:

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery practices at all levels.

Policy Objective 5:

Enhance information and knowledge management for disaster risk management.

4.4 Implementation

The five policy objectives serve as the priorities for implementing the NDRM Policy for Seychelles. As such, they have been further expanded into five key performance areas to provide the parameters within which implementation must take place and against which progress can be monitored and evaluated.
5. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NDRMS) IN SEYCHELLES

The decision to transform the National Disaster Secretariat (NDS) into a full-fledged Division of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) is a concrete expression of the political will and institutional recognition of disaster risk reduction as a relevant issue at all levels of government in Seychelles. An effectively functioning NDRMS will minimise duplication of efforts and will optimise the utilisation of resources by facilitating the alignment and integration of roles and responsibilities for disaster risk management. In addition, the new focus on disaster risk reduction within the broader concept of total disaster risk management will ensure that all ministries, the private sector, other non-state actors and development partners integrate disaster risk reduction practice into their routine activities, thereby building national and community resilience to disasters.

5.1 Establishment of the National Disaster Risk Management System

The government of the republic of Seychelles resolved to establish the National Disaster Risk Management System (NDRMS)

The NDRMS comprises of the following inter-sectoral structures:

- National Disaster Risk Management Committee
- Department of Disaster Risk Management and Civil Protection.
- National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
- National Vulnerability Assessment Committee

5.2 Mandate of the NDRMS

The NDRMS is responsible for the development and implementation of integrated disaster risk management policy in Seychelles. The mandate of the NDRMS is to give effect to the NDRM Policy. This must be done by developing, establishing and maintaining integrated and coordinated disaster risk management in Seychelles through the application of innovative approaches and technologies to build communities, infrastructure and environments in Seychelles that are resilient to disaster risks.

5.3 Role of the NDRMS

The primary role of the NDRMS is to provide an enabling environment for the development, establishment and maintenance of integrated and coordinated disaster risk management in Seychelles. The NDRMS must ensure that the concept of disaster risk reduction is applied through a participatory process of ideas and actions amongst all
Government ministries, the private sector, other non-state actors and development partners at national, regional, constituency, local authority and settlement levels in Seychelles.

5.4 Institutional and operational arrangements for the NDRMS

In order to give effect to Objective 1 of the National Disaster Risk Management (NDRM) Policy, institutional and operational arrangements must be established and maintained that will provide a strong basis for the effective implementation of the NDRMS. These arrangements must include:

• Setting out the mechanisms for the development, adoption, regular review and amendment of the legal and regulatory framework within which the NDRMS must operate;
• Sound organisational mechanisms to enable the integrated direction and execution of the NDRM Policy and for the clear allocation of responsibilities for disaster risk management in Seychelles;
• Establishing multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels to contribute to the implementation of the NDRMS and to ensuring that disaster risk reduction remains a national priority; and
• Establishing relationships with neighbouring and other states in the African region and internationally for the purposes of disaster risk management.

5.5 The legal and regulatory framework for the NDRMS

5.5.1 The President

The first Principle of State Policy, Article - of the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles, requires the state to actively promote the welfare of its people. As Head of State, the President has pursued this constitutional obligation in respect of disasters and the threats that they pose to the welfare of the people of Seychelles, by resolving to make disaster risk reduction a national priority. The introduction of a NDRM Policy to provide direction and to prescribe the parameters for the establishment of a DRMS in Seychelles, is consistent with the global approach of integrating disaster risk reduction into sustainable development. It is also consistent with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 as well as the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, and is concrete expression of the State’s commitment to this obligation.

The Constitution further pursues this obligation to promote the welfare of its people by mandating the President as the Head of State, to declare a state of emergency and to
make proclamations in the interest of national security, public safety and the maintenance of law and order when a disaster of national proportions occurs. These powers are vested in the President in terms of Article --- of the Seychelles Constitution, which states that:

“At a time of national disaster or during a state of national defence or public emergency threatening the life of the nation or the constitutional order, the President may by Proclamation in the Gazette declare that a state of emergency exists in Seychelles or any part thereof.”

In addition, the President is empowered in terms of Article -- of the Seychelles Constitution, to suspend the operation of any law, including common law or any statute, or any fundamental right or freedom protected by the Constitution of Seychelles for such period and subject to such conditions as are reasonably justifiable for the purpose of dealing with the situation giving rise to the emergency (or disaster).

5.5.2 Cabinet

The Cabinet has the constitutional mandate under the leadership of the President to promote the welfare of the Seychelles people. In this regard, the Cabinet must ensure that the provisions of Article of the Seychelles Constitution are applied in order to build a resilient people and environment in Seychelles, through the establishment of a legal and regulatory framework within which the principles of disaster risk reduction are applied and integrated into sustainable development

Cabinet is responsible for prescribing, adopting and amending the NDRM Policy for Seychelles; for approving disaster risk management plans; and for ensuring the allocation of adequate resources for the establishment and operation of the NDRMS.

The NDRMC through the office of the Minister serves in an advisory capacity to Cabinet and makes recommendations to Cabinet on all matters relating to disaster risk management in Seychelles.

Cabinet, on the advice of the NDRMC, approves the release of monies from the National Disaster Fund to support disaster risk management activities. During a state of national disasters, Cabinet is responsible for determining the need for international appeals for assistance for disaster relief and the nature of the assistance that is required

5.5.3 The National Assembly

According to the Seychelles Constitution, the National Assembly is the principal legislative authority that has power, subject to the Constitution, to make and repeal laws for the peace, order and good governance of the country in the best interests of the people of Seychelles. It has power to approve budgets for the effective government and administration of the country.
The National Assembly also receives reports on the activities of the Executive and in this regard reports on the disaster situation in the country from the Office of the NDRMC. The National Assembly thus has power to approve the Disaster Risk Management laws, policies and plans as well as the declaration and/or revocation of state of national disaster.

5.5.4 Division of Disaster Risk Management

The DRDM has the overall responsibility for the operation of the NDRMS in Seychelles. The DRDM is responsible for the coordination of disaster risk management and for executing the NDRM Policy in accordance with pre-determined Key Performance Areas (KPAs). The execution of the NDRM Policy must be undertaken in consultation and cooperation with the National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC) and the National Disaster Risk Management structures at national levels.

5.5.5 National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC)

The National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC) serves as the national multi-stakeholder platform that is assigned the responsibility to support facilitate disaster risk management efforts in Seychelles. The NDRCM shall function in accordance with the responsibilities set out in appendix – in this policy.

The President shall establish the NDRMC that will be chaired by the Minister. The body will be responsible to the President. The NDRMC shall comprise of the core members of the DRMS. The President may appoint other organization or person as member.

5.6 Organisational arrangements for the execution of the NDRM Policy

5.6.1 Division of Risk and Disaster Management

The DRDM is mandated to plan, implement, and facilitate the establishment of an integrated and coordinated system of disaster risk management in Seychelles by:

- All offices, Ministries and agencies at all level;
- Relevant statutory organisations;
- The private sector;
- Other non-state role-players who are involved in disaster risk management in Seychelles; and in communities.

The responsibilities of the DRDM are recorded in Appendix 3 of this NDRM Policy.
5.6.2 **The National Focal Persons Forum (NFPF) for DRM**

The NDDRMs must establish a National Focal Persons Forum (NFPF) to provide a mechanism for all the relevant role players to consult one another and coordinate their disaster risk management planning and operations.

The Director General of the Division of Risk and Disaster Management shall chair the NFPF.

Each office, ministry, agency or organisation involved in disaster risk management must appoint an individual who will act as its focal point for disaster risk management. In the case of the offices, ministries and agencies the Director or Deputy Director or their equivalent must serve as the focal point of the relevant office, ministry or agency. The DRM responsibilities together with appropriate key performance indicators must be included in the job descriptions of the relevant focal persons.

The responsibilities of national focal persons are recorded in Appendix IV to this NDRM Policy.

5.6.3 **The Seychelles Vulnerability Assessment Committee (SezVAC)**

A fully institutionalised Seychelles Vulnerability Assessment Committee must be established. The SezVac is a multi-stakeholder committee that conducts vulnerability assessments to identify vulnerable groups, the prevalence and degree of any given risk, and their causes using agreed indicators and assessment tools. SezVac also forms an institutionalised information system to collate vital information and conduct multi-disciplinary analysis of the kind required to tackle vulnerability reduction and food security issues that will inform policy and decision makers.

5.6.3.1 **Composition of the SezVAC**

The SezVAC committee comprises key stakeholders from the following ministries and relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations:

Name of Agencies.

The responsibilities of SezVac are set in Appendix 6 to this NDRM Policy.

5.6.4 **District Disaster Risk Management System (DDRMS)**

Each local authority must establish and implement a framework for disaster risk management within its area of jurisdiction aimed at ensuring an integrated and uniform approach to disaster risk management. The disaster risk management framework of each local authority must form an integral part of the National Disaster Risk Management Plan.
The DDRMSS must be established in accordance with the NDRM Policy and must operate within the legal framework governing local authorities in Seychelles and the DDRMS must be represented on the national forum.

The responsibilities of the DDRMS is set out in Appendix 5 to this NDRM Policy
6. DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FUNDING IN SEYCHELLES

Disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery requires the coordinated actions of a variety of agencies. It is vital that these agencies be provided with the necessary resources including equipment, training and supplies to enable them to execute their primary mandate of reducing risk and saving lives in emergency situations. In addition, the agencies must work together in a coordinated manner to ensure that their combined efforts are directed towards the same end result. Government will maintain its policy of providing critical resources for these agencies and support the disaster risk management structures in sourcing the necessary broad based training initiatives for all key actors. Increasingly, Offices, Ministries and Agencies (OMAs) will be encouraged to regard emergency resources as a single pool available to all OMAs to provide the critical response required for any major occurrence. The OMAs, private sectors must contribute financially to preparedness, response, post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation efforts.

6.1 The National Disaster Fund

A National Disaster Fund shall be established. Funding shall be derived from the following sources:

- Monies payable to the National Disaster Fund as appropriated by Parliament in accordance with the annual budget;
- Advances made to the National Disaster Fund if in any financial year, the demand exceeds the actual income or estimated liabilities in the fund;
- Any other monies to which the fund is lawfully entitled, including gifts and donations from any person or organisation; and
- Monies received from partnerships with stakeholders and development partners.
- Contribution from Social Corporate Responsibility Tax.
- Levy on Insurances Premium

Any advances made to the National Disaster Fund shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Finance Public Act, Treasury Instructions and other related regulations.

The National Disaster Fund will be managed by the DDRM&CP

The monies invested in the National Disaster Fund serve as a contingency for the development and promotion of disaster risk management and are to be applied for the following purposes:

- Research, capacity building and training programmes to promote and strengthen disaster risk management;
• The acquisition of land, equipment, materials and other assets and the construction of buildings in order to promote the objectives of the NDRM Policy;
• Meeting any expenses arising from the establishment and maintenance of the fund;
• The acquisition of relief assistance, disaster recovery and rehabilitation
• Preparedness activities.
• Any other purpose, which the Minister considers to be in the interests of and contributes to the promotion of disaster risk management in Seychelles.

6.2 Funding for disaster risk management materials
Disaster risk management requires a wide range of tools, equipment and supplies many of which must be held in readiness until required in emergency situations. Government will ensure that there is an adequate stock of material resources available to mount an initial response to any emergency or disaster situation. The OMAs, must also make budgetary allocations for the procurement of emergency equipment and materials.

6.3 Funding for human resources
The Government recognises its responsibility to ensure that all persons engaged in disaster risk management activities have the necessary skills to execute their functions in an effective and timely manner. This means that training in disaster risk management must be multi-agency, multi-sector and multi-level. It will also vary from the institutional to the informal. The DRDM will be supported in its coordinating role to deliver and/or obtain training in disaster risk management not only for its own staff but also for the staff of other agencies, as well as for volunteers from the private sector and community based organisations. The OMAs must mobilise their own resources for training their personnel in disaster risk management. The DRDM on the other hand must maintain a national budget for training at the national levels. The DRDM and OMAs must also mobilise resources for human resource development through partnerships with development partners and the private sector.

6.4 Funding of Post Disaster Recovery and Rehabilitation
When a state of national disaster has been declared, the following principles shall apply:

1. The OMAs, must contribute financially to the response efforts and post disaster recovery and rehabilitation.

2. The cost of repairing or replacing public sector infrastructure should be borne by the Government Ministry and local authority responsible for maintenance of such infrastructure.

3. The Office of the Minister after consultations with the NDRMC may prescribe a percentage of the budget of OMAs, local authorities as a threshold for accessing
additional funding from the National Disaster Fund for disaster recovery and rehabilitation efforts.

When considering applications for such additional funding the following factors will be taken into account:

- Whether any prevention and mitigation measures were taken, and if not the reasons for the absence of such measures;
- Whether the disaster could have been avoided or minimised had prevention and mitigation measures been taken;
- The extent of financial assistance available from community, public or other non-governmental support programmes; and
- The magnitude and severity of the disaster, the financial capacity of those affected by the disaster and their accessibility to commercial insurance.

Rehabilitation is not only limited to the repair of infrastructure but also includes the rehabilitation of the environment and of communities and must be funded through:

- Sector own funding;
- Reprioritisation within the existing capital budget;
- Access to the National Disaster Fund; and
- External funding.

The Government of the Republic of Seychelles will continue to allocate sufficient funds for disaster risk reduction. The line ministries with the primary responsibility for specific disasters must make provision in their budgets every financial year for disaster risk reduction measures that are relevant to their functional area, which must be done in conjunction with the DRDM.

The Government of the Republic of Seychelles will also engage in bilateral agreements with donor agencies for disaster risk reduction. Line Ministries are urged to develop appropriate project proposals to be submitted to potential donor agencies for funding. This can be achieved through mainstreaming disaster risk reduction measures appropriately into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes, including those related to poverty reduction, natural resource management, urban development and adaptation to climate change.

The Government of Seychelles will engage the participation of the private sector and non-governmental organisations in both disaster risk reduction and disaster response initiatives. In so doing it will also emphasise the importance of disaster risk reduction and the benefits that can be derived from participating in disaster risk reduction activities.

All government institutions, are expected to avail required resources before, during and after disasters.
The NDRM Policy supports the concept of establishing public/private partnerships for the implementation of schemes for sharing risk and expanding insurance cover to increase the funding base for post disaster reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The financial instruction for disaster risk management activities shall at all times comply with the State Finance Act, -- Treasury Instructions and regulations made by the Ministry of State Finance Act.
7. THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN SEYCHELLES

The NDRM Policy of Seychelles is grounded on the following internationally accepted core concepts of disaster risk reduction:

7.1 Disaster

A disaster is a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses, which exceed the ability of the affected community, or society to cope using its own resources.

A disaster is a function of the risk process. It results from the combination of hazards, conditions of vulnerability and insufficient capacity or measures to reduce the potential negative consequences of risk (UNISDR 2009, 9).

Disasters have had two causes: the degree of exposure of people, infrastructure and economic activities to a physical event or hazard; and the vulnerability of those exposed to the hazard or shock. The potential for a hazard to become a disaster depends on a population’s vulnerability and coping capacity.

Although severe events such as earthquakes, storms, industrial accidents etc. and massive displacement of people are rare events in Seychelles, yet small cumulative regular events, incidents have significant consequences in the daily lives of those affected. Low intensity or near misses events or incidents are incalculable because they are not captured or reported. These effects are generally underreported and cumulative losses are therefore not reflected but probably have large tolls of economic, health and other losses.

Though often caused by nature, disasters do have human large origins and are often triggered by hazards. The combination of hazards, vulnerability and the inability to reduce the potential negative consequences of risk results in disaster.

7.2 Disaster Risk Management

Disaster Risk Management (DRM) refers to integrated multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary administrative, organisational and operational planning processes and capacities aimed at lessening the impacts of natural and human induced hazards and related environmental, biological and technological disasters (UNISDR 2009, 9).

Disaster risk management aims to increase the likelihood that a household, community, city or any area will be able to anticipate, resist or recover from the losses resulting from a hazard or other threat, without external assistance. It can also be described as the process of identifying, measuring and assessing risks posed by various hazards and then developing the strategies to manage the risk of hazards becoming disasters.
Disaster risk management and disaster risk reduction are about looking beyond hazards alone to considering prevailing conditions of vulnerability. Disaster risk management seeks to address the root causes of disasters, reducing the exposure and vulnerability of people and economic assets in order to reduce losses. Cost effective disaster risk management requires being able to identify where hazards are most likely to strike, who or what will be exposed, and what vulnerabilities will lead to those assets being damaged or destroyed. Disaster risk management, therefore, depends not on identifying the consequences of disasters, but rather the causes. These causes need to be made visible and real so that the risks can be perceived, understood and reduced.

7.3 Hazard

A hazard is a potentially damaging physical event, phenomenon or human activity that may cause the loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation (U.N. ISDR 2002, 24).

A wide range of geophysical, meteorological, hydrological, environmental, technological, biological and even socio-political hazards, alone or in complex interaction, can threaten lives and sustainable development. Hazards can be either of natural origin or human induced.

Hazard mapping is thus critical to inform the NDRMS in planning and implementing DRM activities.

7.4 Vulnerability

Vulnerability refers to a set of conditions and processes rooted in conditions of physical, social, economic and environmental factors which increase the susceptibility of an individual or community to the impact of hazards (UNISDR 2009, 30).

The level of vulnerability of an individual or group depends on levels of access to services and alternative coping options for example before, during and after a drought, wild fire or flooding.

Governed by human activity, vulnerability cannot be isolated from ongoing development efforts and therefore plays a critical role in all the aspects of sustainable development. An understanding of vulnerability is therefore essential in DRM programming which requires the implementation of integrated national vulnerability assessments by such bodies as the Vulnerability Assessment Committee.
7.5 Capacity

Capacity in the context of disaster risk is a combination of all the strengths and resources available within a community, society or organisation that can reduce the level of risk, or the effects of a disaster.

*Where communities are less vulnerable and have adequate capacity, the risk of disasters is reduced and such communities are able to reduce the impact of disasters and are able to recover quickly from the impact of disasters.*

Capacity may include physical, institutional, social or economic means as well as skilled personnel or collective attributes such as leadership and management.

Capacity thus includes functional integrated disaster risk management systems with the ability and skills to conduct risk assessments, to maintain functional early warning systems, updated contingency, emergency preparedness and response plans and to access resources that can be quickly mobilised. A capacitated disaster risk management system requires an enabling environment for disaster risk reduction guided by national policies and legislation (UNISDR 2009, 5).

7.6 Resilience

Resilience refers to the capacity of a system, community, or society that is potentially exposed to hazards, to adapt by resisting or changing so as to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure (UNISDR 2009, 24).

*Resilience is determined by the extent to which the social system is capable of organizing itself to increase its capacity for learning from past disasters so as to protect itself better in future and to improve its risk reduction measures.*

7.7 Risk

The probability of harmful consequences, or expected losses (deaths, injuries, property, livelihoods, economic activity disrupted or environment damaged) resulting from interactions between natural or human-induced hazards and vulnerable conditions (UNISDR 2009, 25)

Conventionally risk is expressed by the relation Risk = Hazards x Vulnerability/Capacity. Beyond expressing a possibility of physical harm, it is crucial to recognize that risks are inherent or can be created or exist within social systems. It is important to consider the social contexts in which risks occur and that people therefore do not necessarily share the same perceptions of risk and their underlying causes.
8 KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS TO GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY IN SEYCHELLES

Five Key Performance Areas (KPAs) have been identified which are derived from the objectives\(^2\) of NDRM Policy. The five KPAs expand on the policy objectives to provide the parameters within which the implementation of total disaster risk management as envisaged by the NDRM Policy, must take place in Seychelles.

Central to the five KPAs are the following broad policy strategies:

- The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning at all levels.
- The strengthening of disaster risk management structures, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards at all levels.
- The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes.
- Building multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels to contribute to the implementation of total disaster risk management.

Each KPA is divided up into a number of key imperatives that are integral to achieving the objective of the applicable KPA. Clear parameters are provided for completing the requirements for each imperative and, in the absence of legislation, specific responsibilities are assigned to relevant individuals and OMAS at all levels of government for the implementation of the requirements. Where applicable, time intervals are provided to specify when or how frequently the task must be executed.

Each KPA is supported by a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which serve as the instruments against which the application of the NDRM Policy will be monitored and progress with the implementation of total disaster risk management will be evaluated.
The five KPAs are as follows:

• **Key Performance Area 1:** Establishing sound, integrated and functional legal and institutional capacity for total disaster risk management in Seychelles.

• **Key Performance Area 2:** Improving risk identification, assessment and monitoring mechanisms in Seychelles.

• **Key Performance Area 3:** Reducing the underlying risk and vulnerability factors by improving disaster risk management applications at all levels.

• **Key Performance Area 4:** Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery practices at all levels.

• **Key Performance Area 5:** Enhancing information and knowledge management for disaster risk management.

8.1 **Key Performance Area 1: Establishing sound, integrated and functional legal and institutional capacity for total disaster risk management in Seychelles**

KPA 1 concentrates on three imperatives which must be implemented to create an enabling institutional environment to ensure that disaster risk reduction remains a priority in Seychelles. These three imperatives provide the parameters for establishing a legal framework and functional institutional mechanisms to sustain political commitment and to facilitate the strengthening and transformation of the established Disaster Risk Management System in order to enable the effective application of the concept of total disaster risk management.

The three imperatives which must be applied to achieve the objective of KPA 1 are:

1. Identify and establish mechanisms to ensure that political commitment to the application of total disaster risk management is enhanced and maintained.
2. Develop and promulgate a Disaster Risk Management Act for Seychelles.
3. Strengthen and transform the existing National Disaster Risk Management System to enable it to implement total disaster risk management.
8.1.1 Imperative 1: Identify and establish mechanisms to ensure that political commitment to the application of total disaster risk management is enhanced and maintained

Political commitment is fundamental to ensuring that disaster risk reduction remains a priority in Seychelles.

The Office of the DRDM must:

• Identify and establish intergovernmental mechanisms to enhance and sustain political commitment.
• Promote disaster risk management as a multi-sector responsibility.
• Advocate for the recognition of disaster risks reduction as part and parcel of sustainable development.
• Harmonize and link such fields as environmental management, poverty reduction, social risk management (SRM) and climate change with disaster risk management practices.
• Disseminate good disaster risk management practices and results that provide evidence to encourage more commitment to disaster risk reduction.
• Put the concerns of vulnerable people at the centre of development policy and practice at all levels.

8.1.2 Imperative 2: Develop and promulgate a Disaster Risk Management Act for Seychelles

The development, adoption and implementation of a National Disaster Risk Management Policy for Seychelles is evidence of political commitment to the transformed approach to total Disaster Risk Management in Seychelles and serves as a precursor for the development and promulgation of legislation that promotes the integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development.

The DRDM must facilitate the development and promulgation of a Disaster Risk Management Act that will provide the legal framework for the management of disaster risk and will ensure sustained political commitment to making disaster risk reduction a priority in Seychelles. The Disaster Risk Management Act must:

• Provide for the establishment of an intergovernmental structure that serves as the political forum in which the relevant Cabinet Ministers, counterparts and organised local government can deliberate on disaster risk management matters, coordinate disaster risk management amongst the levels of government and make recommendations to Cabinet on disaster risk management policy;
• Focus on disaster risk reduction as a national priority;
• Make provision for the establishment of mechanisms to ensure that all development planning is risk reduction based;
• Establish clear lines of authority and must assign statutory responsibilities to disaster risk management stakeholders for integrating risk reduction into sustainable development;
• Make provision for multi-stakeholder engagement which includes the participation of communities;
• Make provision for the establishment of mechanisms for the dissemination of early warnings and promote public awareness of known risks; and
• Provide for rapid and effective response to significant events and disasters; and must facilitate rapid decision-making.

8.1.3 Imperative 3: Strengthen and transform the existing National Disaster Risk Management System to enable it to implement total disaster risk management

Giving effect to the concept of total disaster risk management requires the strengthening and transformation of the existing NDRMS to provide mechanisms for the integration of disaster risk reduction horizontally into the routine functions of the relevant sectors and their substructures (disciplines) at all levels of government in Seychelles. Secondly, it requires the development and establishment of mechanisms to ensure that the efforts at all levels are integrated with each other.

The DRDM is responsible for the coordination of disaster risk management in Seychelles. The DRDM must establish and maintain mechanisms to strengthen the functioning of existing institutional structures and to facilitate the establishment and functioning of additional integrating mechanisms. These mechanisms must include:

• Broadening the scope of the RDRMC’s role and responsibilities to serve as the multi-sector platform for disaster risk management in the relevant region and to provide for the application of the concept of total disaster risk management;
• Broadening the scope of the CDRMC’s role and responsibilities to serve as the multi-sector platform for disaster risk management in the relevant constituency and to provide for the application of the concept of total disaster risk management;
• Establishing functional multi-stakeholder planning teams to enable integrated disaster risk management planning amongst the relevant sectors and their substructures within each level of government. The respective multi-stakeholder planning teams must operate under the auspices of the DRDM and must be tasked with the responsibility for the development of holistic disaster risk management plans that are aimed at reducing specific risks identified in the findings of robust and reliable disaster risk assessments;
• Identifying and assigning responsibility to the relevant Office, Ministry or Agency to serve as the lead agency for the development and implementation of disaster risk management plans for the specific identified priority risk/s for the relevant level;
• Identifying and assigning responsibility to relevant stakeholders from other Offices, Ministries, Agencies and communities to serve as support agencies in the planning teams established for the development and implementation of disaster risk management plans for the specific identified priority risk/s for the relevant level;
• Appointing the focal points from the lead Offices, Ministries and Agencies to serve as project managers and facilitate the work of the relevant multi-stakeholder planning teams for the specific identified priority risk/s for the relevant level;

• Establishing mechanisms to enable coordination and integration of disaster risk management planning and implementation between the different levels of government. This applies particularly for the purposes of mutual assistance and for managing cross-boundary threats.

• Assigning responsibility to national focal points for disaster risk management to facilitate the review of policies, legislation and frameworks relevant to their sector and where necessary to reconcile such legislation, policies and frameworks to make provision for the integration of total disaster risk management into development planning and implementation;

• Developing and implementing a system to monitor progress of the implementation of total disaster risk management which includes the requirement for the preparation of quarterly progress reports in accordance with a standard national format for submission to the DRDM;

• Establishing mechanisms to facilitate cooperation with neighbouring states which includes planning for prevailing cross boundary risks that pose a threat to Seychelles and for the purposes of mutual assistance in terms of disaster response and recovery;

• Establishing mechanisms that will enable disaster risk management stakeholders in Seychelles to participate in disaster risk management activities in the Indian Ocean Region and internationally in order to learn from and contribute to global experience in disaster risk management. Mechanisms must include procedures for engaging expertise and accessing resources available from international organisations; and establishing links and networks with counterparts performing similar functions in other countries;

• Facilitating the development of a National Action Plan for Capacity Development in Disaster Risk Management to serve as a road map for implementing the KPAs to achieve the objectives of the NDRM Policy in Seychelles. The National Action Plan (NAP) must be developed with the full participation of all disaster risk management stakeholders including the relevant government ministries, offices and agencies; NGOs; UN Agencies; the private sector; and regional and constituency representatives;

8.1.4 **Key Performance Indicators for KPA1:**

• There is sustained political commitment to the application of total disaster risk management in Seychelles.

• A Disaster Risk Management Act that provides a legal framework for Disaster Risk Management in Seychelles has been developed, promulgated and implemented.
• The existing NDRMS is transformed and is implementing total disaster risk management in accordance with relevant disaster risk management policy and legislation in Seychelles.

• Institutional arrangements at all levels have been strengthened to facilitate the application of relevant disaster risk management policy and legislation in Seychelles.

• Legislation, policies and frameworks governing functional areas relevant to disaster risk management incorporate the concept of total disaster risk management.

• There is multi-stakeholder participation in disaster risk management planning and implementation at all levels of government in Seychelles.

• Progress with the implementation of total disaster risk management at all levels is monitored and is evidenced in progress reports submitted to the DRDM.

• Seychelles participates in disaster risk management activities in the SADC region IOC, UN organisations and internationally.

• All relevant sectors have appointed focal persons to facilitate the work of the relevant multi-stakeholder planning teams for the specific identified priority risk/s for the relevant level.

8.2 Key Performance Area 2: Improving disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring mechanisms

The Government recognises that making disaster risk reduction a priority in Seychelles through the implementation of the concept of total disaster risk management is entirely dependent on robust and reliable disaster risk assessment information. This means that disaster risk identification and assessment must be the first step in the development and implementation of successful disaster risk management policy and planning in Seychelles. The dynamics of disaster risk are such that a significantly improved capacity is required to track, monitor and disseminate information on phenomena and activities that trigger disaster events.

KPA 2 focuses on four imperatives, which must be implemented to provide mechanisms that will improve disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring and will facilitate the effective dissemination of early warnings to communities and areas at risk in Seychelles.

The four imperatives which must be applied to achieve the objective of KPA 2 are:

1. Establish mechanisms for conducting comprehensive multi-hazard disaster risk assessments to serve as an interface for all disaster risk management planning in Seychelles.
2. Establish mechanisms to engage the participation of all stakeholders in disaster risk assessment processes.

3. Establish mechanisms for tracking, monitoring, updating and archiving disaster risk information.

4. Establish mechanisms for quality assurance.

8.2.1 Imperative 1: Establish mechanisms for conducting comprehensive multi-hazard disaster risk assessments in Seychelles to serve as an interface for disaster risk management planning

Comprehensive disaster risk assessments that are robust and reliable are prerequisites to ensuring that all disaster risk management planning undertaken in Seychelles is risk-based.

The DRDM is responsible for the coordination of disaster risk management in Seychelles. Accordingly, the DRDM is responsible for facilitating the development of national standards and guidelines for conducting comprehensive disaster risk assessments that determine the nature and extent of the risk to which Seychelles could be exposed. This is done by analysing the potential hazards and risks and then evaluating the prevailing conditions of vulnerability that could pose a potential threat or harm to the people, property, livelihoods and the environment on which the Seychelles people depend.

The information obtained from disaster risk assessments must be progressively integrated into all disaster risk management planning. This means that systematic disaster risk assessments must be conducted prior to the implementation of any projects and programmes aimed at reducing risk.

Disaster risk assessment involves four distinct stages whereby the results of each stage leads to more comprehensive and more technical assessments. Interpreting the findings of these more comprehensive assessments usually requires specialised technical expertise. The staged approach provides the mechanism for interfacing the findings of each stage of the disaster risk assessment with the various components of the total disaster risk management planning package as follows:

- Preparedness, Response and Recovery plans for hazards that have been identified as priorities because of the potential impact they could have in Seychelles.

- Specific vulnerability reduction plans and programmes that address identified social, economic, physical and environmental factors that cause people, property, livelihoods and the environment to be at risk; and
• Specific structural and non-structural risk reduction plans and programmes designed to address households, communities, areas and developments that have been identified to be at high risk because of their multiple vulnerabilities.

The disaster risk assessment process must start with the systematic collection of data at grass roots level by engaging communities and harnessing indigenous knowledge and historical data, which must be integrated with scientific and contemporary knowledge. Information emanating from local disaster risk assessments must be consolidated to generate regional disaster risk profiles, which in turn must be consolidated to generate a national disaster risk profile for Seychelles.

In order to facilitate the consolidation of disaster risk assessment information across sectors, between all levels of government and with that of other countries, the DRDM must ensure that the national standards and guidelines make provision for uniform methodology and methods including:

• Applying the four-staged approach for conducting disaster risk assessments used by the ISDR;

• The use of the internationally recognised classification as used by the ISDR;

• The assessment of vulnerability according to social, economic, physical (built environment), environmental and political factors;

• The identification of a common given geographical area at which disaster risk must be represented;

• The use of scientifically sound and robust mathematical formulae for determining levels of risk. For example the development of livelihoods baselines based on the Household Economy Approach to be used to assess the vulnerability of communities to hazard shocks; and

• The development of integrated hazard maps to identify and record geographical areas and communities at risk.

The DRDM must establish mechanisms to capacitate stakeholders on the use of the guidelines and standard tools for conducting disaster risk assessments.

The DRDM will use the Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) as a mechanism for the funding of disaster risk assessments in Seychelles and to complement risk assessments conducted by other actors.
8.2.2 Imperative 2: Establish mechanisms to engage the participation of all stakeholders in disaster risk assessment processes

Disaster risk assessments are complex processes that require a multidisciplinary approach involving teams of specialist experts, research institutions, sector departments and other technical expertise relevant to the type of hazards, vulnerabilities and disaster risks being assessed. The DRDM must therefore establish mechanisms to ensure that all stakeholders including communities are engaged in disaster risk assessment processes.

8.2.3 Imperative 3: Establish mechanisms for tracking, monitoring, updating and archiving disaster risk information

The DRDM must establish mechanisms to ensure that all sectors at all level develop and implement clear and documented mechanisms and capacity to track, monitor and update disaster risk information relevant to their functional area; and for making such information available to the DRDM and other relevant stakeholders.

Mechanisms must be identified and implemented for the archiving of disaster risk assessment information and for the development of integrated hazard and risk maps to identify geographical areas and communities at risk through the use of Geographical Information Systems and other relevant software.

8.2.4 Imperative 4: Establish mechanisms for quality assurance

In view of the legal and other implications of producing flawed disaster risk assessments that contain incorrect or unverified risk assessment findings, it is essential to put mechanisms in place to establish standards for conducting disaster risk assessments in Seychelles and to exercise quality control. In order to achieve the objective of this imperative the DRDM must, in consultation with the NDRMC, establish a Seychelles Vulnerability Assessment Committee (SezVAC) to:

- Ensure that assessments are conducted using uniform methodology;
- Ensure that all disaster risk management planning and practice is based on scientifically sound risk assessments; and
- Provide scientific and technical support and advice to offices, ministries, agencies, Regional Councils, Constituencies, Local Authorities and other relevant stakeholders commissioning disaster risk assessments.

The composition of the SezVAC will consist of specialists drawn from nationally recognised research organisations, specialist ministries, UN agencies, NGOs or the private sector. Consideration must be given to appointing a core group of permanent members who will be supported by ad hoc members that are selected to serve for the duration of the task at hand because of their specific expertise in the relevant field.
The SezVAC must operate under the auspices of the DRDM in accordance with predetermined terms of reference and must submit reports on its activities to the DRDM and the in accordance with specified timeframes.

The DRDM in consultation with the SezVAC must determine the time intervals at which disaster risk assessments in Seychelles must be reviewed.

All proposed disaster risk assessments planned by offices, ministries, agencies and other relevant stakeholders must be submitted to the SezVAC via the Drdm for technical review and approval before being commissioned.

Reports of all disaster risk assessments conducted by offices, ministries, agencies, and other relevant stakeholders must be submitted to the Drdm for referral to the SezVAC for technical validation of findings. This has to be done before any plans, projects, programmes, initiatives, and risk and hazard maps based on the assessment findings are initiated; and to enable the National Information Management and Communication System to be updated.

8.2.5 Key Performance Indicators for KPA 2:

- A Seychelles Vulnerability Assessment Committee (SezVAC) has been established and is functioning effectively.

- National standards and guidelines for conducting disaster risk assessments have been developed and applied.

- Stakeholders have been capacitated in the use of the guidelines for conducting disaster risk assessment.

- Comprehensive multi-hazard disaster risk assessments have been undertaken at all levels of government in Seychelles.

- Disaster risk assessment reports show evidence of community participation and the incorporation of indigenous and historical knowledge.

- Information emanating from disaster risk assessments has been consolidated to generate disaster risk profiles.

- Systematic disaster risk assessments are conducted prior to the implementation of any programmes and projects aimed at reducing risk.

- Mechanisms have been identified and established for funding disaster risk assessment in Seychelles
• Disaster risk assessment reports show evidence of multi-disciplinary stakeholder engagement.

• All relevant sectors at all level have developed and established systems that are capable of monitoring vulnerability and of tracking hazards, disasters and significant events to provide early warning of changing patterns of risk and of impending threats.

• Disaster risk assessment information has been documented, mapped, and archived in the disaster risk management information management system.

• Disaster risk assessment information is disseminated and is readily available.

• All relevant sectors at all level have developed and established mechanisms for updating disaster risk assessment information and for systematically integrating such information into disaster risk management planning.

• Disaster risk assessment information has been integrated into the National Information Management and Communication System.

8.3 Key Performance Area 3: Reducing the underlying risk and vulnerability factors by improving disaster risk management applications at all levels

Sector (OMA) development planning and programmes as well as post disaster situations must address disaster risks related to changing social, economic and environmental conditions. These include risks related to the use of unsuitable land and the impact of hazards associated with geological events, weather, water, biological, technological, climate variability and climate change. Reducing vulnerability centres on understanding and addressing underlying processes of impoverishment, including events and processes associated with asset depletion and destitution. A key element is to make livelihoods disaster resilient.

Reducing vulnerability also means building resilience through simple but effective innovation such as domestic rainwater harvesting, livestock management and perennial crop cultivation. Reducing vulnerability to disasters and other shocks requires efforts to tackle food insecurity. This means a move away from emergency relief towards budgeted national safety nets that deliver timely, adequate, predictable and guaranteed transfers.

Environmental and natural resource management initiatives must support and promote:

• The sustainable use and management of ecosystems;
• The implementation of integrated environmental and natural resource management mechanisms; and
• The integration of disaster risk reduction associated with existing climate variability and future climate change into strategies for the reduction of disaster risk and adaptation to climate change.

Social and economic development practices must include initiatives to reduce disaster risk that support and promote:

• Food security through water harvesting for crop irrigation;

• The implementation of social safety net mechanisms;

• Income generating and livelihoods projects

• The integration of disaster risk management into national development plans of key sectors and into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation projects. This must include protecting and strengthening critical public facilities, utilities and physical infrastructure through proper design, retrofitting, rebuilding and preventive maintenance in order to render them adequately resilient to hazards;

• Diversified income options for populations in high risk areas;

• The development of financial risk sharing mechanisms, particularly insurance and reinsurance against disasters;

• The establishment of public/private sector partnership to better engage the private sector in disaster risk management activities and to support and finance a culture of disaster risk management; and

• Land use planning and other technical measures which include:
  ▪ Incorporating disaster risk assessments into urban planning;
  ▪ The management of disaster prone human settlements;
  ▪ Mainstreaming disaster risk considerations into planning procedures for major infrastructure projects as well as other development programmes;
  ▪ The revision of existing or the development of new building codes and standards, and
  ▪ The revision of rehabilitation and reconstruction practices all levels with the aim of making them more applicable in Seychelles context, particularly reinforcing capacity to implement, monitor and enforce such codes. These
processes must involve a consensus-based approach with a view to fostering disaster resilient structures.

Health management initiatives remain crucial to reduce the heightening levels of vulnerability associated with the HIV/AIDS Epidemic, pandemic and must promote and support the effective implementation of the Short, Medium and long Term Plan for HIV/AIDS and other communicable disease. In line with this, disaster risk management initiatives will promote the integration of HIV/AIDS and communicable diseases risk reduction strategies into the education sector and into the developmental planning of other relevant sectors.

The development and implementation of disaster risk management plans that focus on integrating disaster risk reduction into the routine activities of the relevant sectors (OMAs) at all levels of government is the primary mechanism for ensuring that disaster risk reduction remains a priority in Seychelles.

All disaster risk management planning undertaken in Seychelles must be informed by:

- Comprehensive disaster risk assessment information sourced from reports compiled by the Seychelles Vulnerability Assessment Committee;

- Specific multi-sector assessments commissioned for communities, areas and developments identified to be at high risk to disasters;

- specific sector risk assessments and surveys such as annual crop assessments;

- The Seychelles Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (SHIES); and

- The National Poverty Assessments.

Disaster risk management planning must take into account some of the primary constraints in relation to assessing climate change including:

- Limited capacity and awareness to assess vulnerabilities, including political commitment to integrate climate change risk into national policies and investment plans;

- Lack of anticipatory, cost-effective, flexible and adaptable management approaches to the potential impacts of climate risks; and

- Exposure and vulnerabilities of certain population group and economic sectors to natural environmental variability and climate risks.
**KPA3** focuses on three imperatives that will improve disaster risk management applications at all levels of government so as to reduce identified underlying risk and vulnerability factors in Seychelles.

The three imperatives which must be applied to achieve the objective of KPA 3 are:

1. Develop and disseminate a National Disaster Risk Management Planning Framework and guidelines that will facilitate the development and integration of disaster risk management planning into the development plans and programmes of all sectors in the three levels of government and of other relevant stakeholders.

2. Assign specific responsibilities for disaster risk management planning in Seychelles.

3. Develop, implement and maintain an early warning system for Seychelles.

### 8.3.1 Imperative 1: Develop and disseminate a National Disaster Risk Management Planning Framework and guidelines that will facilitate the development and integration of disaster risk management planning into the development plans and programmes of all sectors in the three levels of government and of other relevant stakeholders

The DDRM&CP must develop a National Disaster Risk Management Planning Framework (NDRMPF) for Seychelles.

The NDRMPF must be developed in consultation with the relevant disaster risk management stakeholders.

The NDRMPF must guide the development of disaster risk management plans; ensure the application of uniform methodology; and must facilitate the alignment of plans amongst all stakeholders with the aim of achieving integrated, holistic and coordinated disaster risk management planning in Seychelles. The NDRMPF must define the composition and scope of the various components of the NDRMPF at the various levels of government.

The NDRMPF must be disseminated to all stakeholders and the DRDM must prescribe deadlines for the submission of completed plans.

All disaster risk management plans must be reviewed and revised every three years and after every significant event and disaster.

In order to ensure that disaster risk reduction remains a priority the NDRMPF must provide for the incorporation of the following strategies into disaster risk management planning:

- Integrated strategies involving multi-stakeholder participation;
- Timely disaster risk reduction actions that contribute to sustainable development by limiting environmental and property damage and the loss of life and livelihood;
• The adequate allocation of resources to ensure that the most vulnerable communities can depend on reliable disaster risk management services. These services should alert such communities to any threats and provide professional disaster risk reduction services and humanitarian support during disaster response and recovery operations;
• The introduction of creative formal and informal initiatives that encourage risk avoidance behaviour on the part of individuals, the private sector and government;
• The introduction of mechanisms to ensure that Seychelles transportation, critical services such as telecommunications, electricity and public sector infrastructure networks are able to withstand expected any threats;
• The introduction of mechanisms for setting and implementing minimum building standards, especially for low-cost housing, to ensure structural soundness that withstands the impact of extreme weather patterns or other adverse conditions; and
• Strategies to ensure that the development of marginal and environmental fragile areas is appropriate and properly planned.

8.3.2 Imperative 2: Assign specific responsibilities for disaster risk management planning in Seychelles

8.3.2.1 Responsibilities for ensuring integrated disaster risk management planning

The DRDM must consultatively develop, disseminate and facilitate the implementation of guidelines for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development programmes and themes of sectors (OMAs) at all levels of government in Seychelles.

In order to ensure the integration and alignment of plans the lead agency that has been assigned the primary responsibility for the development and implementation of disaster risk management plans for the specific identified priority risk/s must:

• Engage the participation of all stakeholders assigned with secondary responsibility for the specific identified priority risk/s in the multi-stakeholder planning team established for the purpose;

• Facilitate the work of the relevant multi-stakeholder planning team and serve as project manager;

• Submit project progress reports to the DRDM and the in accordance with predetermined time frames;

• Ensure that all disaster risk management plans are based on information obtained from reliable and robust disaster risk assessments surveys and research;

• Prepare and submit any recommendations on NDRM Policy for consideration to the NDRMC through the offices of the DRDM; and
Ensure that the sector’s disaster risk management plans are integrated into National Disaster Risk Management Plans.

8.3.2.2 The National Disaster Risk Management Plan

Based on the NDRMPF, a National Disaster Risk Management Plan must be developed by the DRDM and must be distributed to all role players. The National Disaster Risk Management Plan is a composite plan which is an integration of all the disaster risk management plans developed for Seychelles and therefore incorporates, but does not replace, the disaster risk management plans of the sectors (OMAs).

8.3.2.3 Sector (OMA) Disaster Risk Management Plans

Each OMA at all level must identify priority disaster risks relative to its functional area and must identify the areas, communities and households that are most vulnerable to these risks.

Each OMA must prepare a disaster risk management plan which:

• Determines its role and responsibilities in relation to the NDRM Policy and the manner in which the concept and principles of disaster risk reduction are to be applied in its functional area;

• Determines its role and responsibilities in respect of emergency response, disaster recovery and rehabilitation;

• Establishes its capacity to fulfil its disaster risk management role and responsibilities;

• Includes details of its disaster risk management strategies; and

• Contingency strategies and emergency procedures in the event of a disaster, including measures to finance these strategies.

Each OMA must:

• Participate in multi-stakeholder planning teams established by the NDRMC in order to co-ordinate and align the development and implementation of its disaster risk management plan with those of other stakeholders and institutional role players for incorporation into the National Disaster Risk Management Plan;

• Facilitate the training of personnel in the implementation of its disaster risk management plan; and

• Must regularly review and update its disaster risk management plan.
Each OMA must submit a copy of its disaster risk management plan, and of any amendment to the plan, to the Office of the Prime Minister: Directorate Disaster Risk Management.

In assessing an OMA’s capacity to adhere to the requirements of the NDRM Policy, such capacity must be supplemented, where necessary, by collateral support and the sharing of resources among OMAs, and by harnessing the capacity of the private sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The parameters of such collateral support and assistance must be clearly defined in Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and/or Standing Operational Procedures (SOPs).

8.3.2.4 Disaster Risk Management Plans of Sectors, Local Authorities

Each local authority must prepare a disaster risk management plan. The disaster risk management plan of a local authority must anticipate the types of disaster that might occur in the local authority’s area of jurisdiction and must identify communities and areas at risk to those disasters.

The disaster risk management plan of a local authority must:

- Determine its role and responsibilities in relation to the NDRM Policy and the manner in which the concept and principles of disaster risk reduction are to be applied in its functional or jurisdictional area;
- Determine its role and responsibilities in respect of emergency response and disaster recovery and rehabilitation;
- Include details of its disaster risk reduction strategies;
- Establish its capacity to fulfil its disaster risk management role and responsibilities;
- Facilitate maximum emergency preparedness;
- Include contingency strategies and emergency procedures in the event of a disaster, including measures to finance these strategies, providing for:
  - The allocation of responsibilities to the various stakeholders and coordination in the carrying out of those responsibilities;
  - Prompt disaster response and relief;
  - The procurement of essential goods and the distribution of essential services;
  - The establishment of strategic communication links; and
  - The dissemination of information.

Each local authority must:
Participate in multi-stakeholder planning teams established by the RDRMC in order to co-ordinate and align the development and implementation of its disaster risk management plan with those of other stakeholders and institutional role players for incorporation into the disaster risk management plan;

- Facilitate the training of personnel in the implementation of its disaster risk management plan; and
- Must regularly review and update its disaster risk management plan.

In assessing its capacity to adhere to the requirements of the NDRM Policy, such capacity must be supplemented, where necessary, by collateral support and the sharing of resources among OMA in the system and by harnessing the capacity of the private sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The parameters of such collateral and assistance must be clearly defined in Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and/or Standing Operational Procedures (SOPs).

Each local authority must submit a copy of its disaster risk management plan and any amendments to the plan to the Regional Governor and the Chief Regional Officer.

Local authority disaster risk management plans must be reviewed every three years and after every significant event and disaster.

8.3.3 Imperative 3: Develop, implement and maintain an early warning system for Seychelles

An early warning system (EWS) is critical for an effective disaster risk management system. The Government must ensure that capacity exists to maintain and where necessary, upgrade the EWS to keep pace with technological progress. Early warning is the timely and effective collection and dissemination of information, through identified institutions, that allows individuals, households, areas and communities exposed to a hazard to take action to avoid or reduce the risk and prepare for effective response.

The EWS must have the capabilities to enable:

- The interpretation of disaster risk information;
- Hazard and risk mapping;
- Tracking, monitoring and forecasting impending events;
- Processing and disseminating understandable warnings to political authorities and the population; and
- Taking appropriate and timely actions in response to warnings.

The EWS will rely on key technical expert and organisations responsible for scientific data collection and knowledge. Such organisations include:
The EWS requires clear and reliable information and communication, which in turn will rely greatly on local community participation. The EWS must be people centered and systems must be developed that provide warnings that are timely and understandable to those at risk. The EWS must include guidance for threatened areas, communities and households on the importance of heeding warnings and on how to act upon warnings in order to avoid risk. The EWS must support effective operations by disaster managers and other decision makers.

At national level, the Government through the DRDM must establish mechanisms to ensure that early warning information is delivered to the public without delay when any situation threatens to place people, infrastructure or the environment at risk.

Institutional capacities must be established to ensure that EWS are well integrated into governmental policy, decision-making processes and into emergency management systems at both the national and the local levels, and that they are subjected to regular system testing and performance assessments.

8.3.4 Key Performance indicators for KPA 3

Guidelines have been consultatively developed, disseminated and implemented for mainstreaming disaster risk management into development programmes and themes of sectors (OMAs) at all levels of government.

Specific responsibilities have been assigned for the development of disaster risk management plans at all levels of government.

- Disaster risk management plans at all levels have been developed and implemented in accordance with prevailing disaster risks profiles.
- There is evidence in reports to the DRDM of the progressive application of disaster risk reduction techniques and measures by OMAs, organisations/bodies.
- Disaster risk management plans are integrated into the development plans and programmes of the relevant sectors
- There is evidence of the engagement with private sector partners in disaster risk management initiatives and in multi-stakeholder planning teams established by the DRDM;
- Disaster risk management plans are reviewed and revised every three years and after every significant event and disaster.

- A EWS has been developed and implemented in Seychelles and mechanisms have been established to ensure that the EWS is maintained and current.

8.4 Key Performance Area 4: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective emergency response and recovery practices at all levels

Disaster impacts and losses can be reduced if all stakeholders including communities and individuals in hazard prone areas are well prepared, ready to act and are equipped with knowledge and capacities for effective disaster response. Post disaster recovery activities must
be implemented parallel to the early stages of response. There must be no line separating preparedness, response, early and long-term recovery from development activities.

**KPA 4** focuses on five imperatives which must be implemented to provide mechanisms that will strengthen disaster preparedness for effective emergency response and recovery practices at all levels in Seychelles.

The five imperatives which must be applied to effectively achieve the objective of KPA 4, are

1. Establish mechanisms to strengthen disaster preparedness practices in Seychelles.
2. Establish mechanisms to ensure rapid and effective response to significant events and disasters.
3. Establish mechanisms for the management of disaster relief and recovery operations.
4. Establish mechanisms for the engagement of volunteers in support of disaster response effort.
5. Establish mechanisms for real time information management when a state of national disaster has been declared

**8.4.1 Imperative 1: Establish mechanism to strengthen disaster preparedness practices in Seychelles**

Proficiency in any skill is polished and enhanced by practice. All emergency response agencies must therefore continue to sharpen the skills of their staff through participation in regular drills and exercises. There must be at least one major full-scale emergency response exercise per year supported by table top exercises and drills, aimed at strengthening and maintaining the level of emergency response skills.

The DRDM must establish mechanisms at all levels to:

- Promote and support dialogue, the exchange of information and coordination amongst primary and secondary stakeholders that have responsibilities for disaster response and recovery which is aimed at fostering a holistic approach to preparedness;
- Strengthen and where necessary, develop coordinated approaches, create or upgrade policies, operational mechanisms, plans and communication systems to prepare for and ensure rapid and effective disaster response;
- Ensure a uniform approach to the dissemination of early warnings;
- Promote regular disaster preparedness exercises and simulations including evacuation drills with a view to ensuring rapid and effective disaster response and access to emergency services as required, for local needs;
- Promote the establishment of emergency funds, to support appropriate preparedness, response and recovery measures;
- Develop specific measures to engage the active participation and ownership of relevant stakeholders, including communities, in disaster risk management and in particular to build a spirit of volunteerism; to engage the involvement of volunteers; and to clearly set out the mechanisms for the deployment of volunteers.
8.4.1.1 Community Based Disaster Risk Management Committees (CBDRMCs)

The CDRMCs must be established at local level. The CDRMCs must provide leadership, ensure community ownership of and participation in, disaster risk management and awareness programmes and facilitate preparedness at local level. The District Disaster risk management Committee must facilitate the establishment of CBDMCs and provide the necessary training and where possible equipment to support their roles. The committees will provide the initial response to disaster and shall work closely with the Field Command Team throughout the period of the disaster.

As part of an advocacy for more responsive and effective governance, at all levels governments must consider integrating CBDMCs in their policy and implementing procedures.

8.4.2 Imperative 2: Establish mechanisms to ensure rapid and effective response to significant events and disasters

Disaster response measures are those taken to save lives, protect property, restoring essential life support and community systems and providing a foundation for subsequent recovery activities. The success of disaster response depends on good preparedness. Major Field operations for disaster response and recovery include:

- Search and rescue;
- Treatment and care of those affected;
- Evacuation;
- Provision of shelter and clothing;
- Provision of food, cooking utensils, power or alternative energy sources;
- Provision of water and sanitation;
- Health services;
- Security;
- Repair of roads and clearing access for vehicles, aircrafts or boats and trains; and,
- Public information.

The DRDM must ensure the development of regulations and directives and standing operation procedures to standardise and regulate the practice and management of response and recovery operations at all levels.

8.4.2.1 The declaration of a state of national disaster
With the exception of a security-related event, the responsibility for strategic co-

ordination in responding to a national disaster or significant event, which occurs or is

threatening to occur, rests with the DRDM. The DRDM must liaise with and relevant

stakeholders to assess the magnitude of a significant event or disaster or threat thereof

and make recommendations to the Minister on whether to declare an event a state of

national disaster. The DRDM acting on the information from the assessment of an event

warranting the declaration of a state of national disaster, must recommend to the

Minister accordingly. Minister will in turn advise the President of the Republic of

Seychelles. In terms of Article -- (-) of the Seychelles Constitution, the President of the

Republic of Seychelles shall declare a state of national disaster. The declaration of the

state of national disaster must specify the population and the areas that will be covered

by state intervention.

The state of national disaster shall remain in force for a period of three months from the
date that it is specified in the declaration unless the President of the Republic of

Seychelles by notice in the Gazette withdraws or extends such declaration before the
expiry of three months.

**Criteria for Declaration of a State of National Disaster**

While a wide range of different events that fall within the definition of a disaster can occur at District,
levels, specific area and therefore can be classified as a disaster, these can only be considered as
warranting declaration as a *state of a national disaster* when disaster impact assessments and/or
ongoing risk monitoring processes indicate that:

- A disaster event or process affects more than one District or region or exceeds the capabilities of a
  single region to manage it effectively. The classification of state of national disaster includes
  recurrent high- and medium-magnitude events that occur in most regions and may require national
  support and/or intervention. These include droughts, floods, forest and veld fires, large informal
  settlement fires, destructive windstorms, rainstorms and communicable disease outbreaks affecting
  people or livestock;
- Low-frequency/rare high-magnitude disaster risks with potential for severe loss and which require
  levels of specialist support that are possibly not available within a District/region. These include,
  major transport and industrial disasters, nuclear accidents and maritime disasters such as severe oil
  spills.
- Disaster risks that affect neighbouring countries have consequences for Seychelles. These include
  unplanned cross-border movements, spread of emerging infectious disease as well as those events
  that require humanitarian or other relief assistance.
- A disaster event or process affects more than one District or region or exceeds the capabilities of a
  single region to manage it effectively. The classification of state of national disaster includes
Reclassification of disasters occurring at constituency, local and regional level

An event which has been classified and announced as a local or regional disaster or has been declared as a state of national disaster may at any time be reclassified by the President with advice from the DRDM if the magnitude and severity or potential magnitude and severity of the disaster is greater or lesser than the initial assessment.

Special powers in the event of a Local or Island State of Disaster or state of national disasters

In the case of where a local or regional disaster warrants the declaration of state of national disaster, the DRDM after consultations with the Minister shall:

• Make arrangements for the release of any available resources of the national government, including stores, equipment, vehicles and facilities etc.;
• Make arrangements for personnel from national level to be made temporarily available for the performance of emergency services;
• implement all or any of the provisions of a disaster risk management plan that is applicable in the circumstances or initiate, order and oversee the implementation of all or any of the provisions of such a plan;
• direct, regulate and oversee the evacuation to temporary shelters of all or part of the population from the disaster-stricken or threatened area if such action is necessary for the preservation of life;
• regulate and oversee traffic to, from and within the disaster-stricken or threatened area;
• regulate and oversee the movement of persons and goods to, from and within the disaster-stricken or threatened area;
• control the occupancy of premises in the disaster-stricken or threatened area;
• make provision for and control the use of temporary emergency housing;
• implement any measures necessary to maintain existing, or to install temporary lines of communication to, from or within the disaster-stricken or threatened area;
• issue and disseminate information required for dealing with the disaster; and
• Facilitate post-disaster reconstruction, rehabilitation and recovery.

While a declaration of a state of national disaster is in force, the DRDM shall have authority to requisition/take possession of land, equipment, materials, structures or other property required for dealing with a disaster. The DRDM, shall also have authority to take all other steps that may be necessary to prevent escalation of the disaster, or to alleviate, contain and minimize the effects of the disaster.

The DRDM as the coordinating office during a state of national disaster, shall exercise the powers to the extent that it is necessary for the purpose of:

• Assisting and protecting the public;
• Providing relief to the public;
• Preventing or combating disruption; or
• Dealing with the destructive and other effects of the disaster.

The Minister in exercising its powers may prescribe regulations, including regulations prescribing penalties for any contravention of the regulations.

Criteria for Announcement of a Local Disaster

An event occurring or threatening to occur can only be classified as a local disaster when an impact assessment and/or ongoing risk monitoring processes indicate that:

• A specific risk affects more than one District, or exceeds the capabilities of a single District, Island to manage it effectively;
• The risk results in the same type of event occurring repeatedly and at different times in more than one District or Island with significant cumulative impacts on lives, property and the natural environment;
• An event or process affects more than one municipality, constituency, settlement or exceeds the capabilities of a single District or Island to manage it effectively;
• Regional or local emergency will include recurrent high- and medium-magnitude events that may require regional support and/or intervention. These include floods, forest and veld fires, large informal industrial fires, destructive windstorms, rainstorms and communicable disease outbreaks affecting people or livestock.

An event classified and announced as a local disaster may at any time be reclassified by the DRDM if the magnitude and severity or potential magnitude and severity of the disaster is greater or lesser than the initial assessment.

Integrated response

Establishment of a Joint Operations Team (JOT)

The JOT is an operational body that must be established by the DRDM during and emergency situations. The aim of the JOT is to serve in an administrative capacity and to provide and coordinate logistical support for exercises, deployments, and humanitarian assistance. Its mission is to conduct joint, combined and interagency operations in areas affected by disasters and to provide a rapidly deployable, operational-level command and control capability. By bringing together staff and agencies at the strategic and operational level, the JOT will improve the effectiveness of joint planning, assessment, and the allocation of resources for emergency operations, and the command and control of operations. The JOT must coordinate the distribution of disaster relief, search and rescue and the evacuation of people at risk of disasters. The JOT must report to the DRDM.
The JOT comprises relevant representatives configured according to the business at hand to provide general support functions for engineering, health services, logistics, land, equipment management, military and police, personnel and financial administration and support.

Command during a state of national disaster shall be undertaken at three broad levels by a Central Command Team, Regional Command Teams and Field Command Teams.

**Lead Agency for Specific Hazard**

Lead Agency for specific hazard shall be established and Standard Operating Procedures shall be developed in accordance to the disaster Risk Management Act, 2014.

**National Standard for Emergency Response Management System**

Each agency identified that has emergency response responsibilities must establish Standard Operating procedures (SOPs) for co-coordinating response and recovery operations, and for ensuring government/business continuity. The SOPs must be consistent with the requirements of relevant legislation, regulations, policies and standards.

The SOPS must provide a mechanism to track the escalation of incidents and facilitate the reporting of 'trigger' indicators. Trigger indicators must be clearly identified and must be reported to the Disaster risk management System at various levels. Examples of trigger indicators include the routine reporting of all veld and forest fire incidents to the line ministry and to the DRDM when fire danger rating indices are at certain levels; or the reporting of all incidents that require a predetermined level of response.

**Imperative 3: Establish Mechanisms for the Management of Disaster Relief and Recovery Operations**

Government’s intention at all levels is to provide immediate assistance to affected communities and areas in order to minimise the suffering and material losses brought about by significant events and disasters. Government undertakes to provide such assistance through the National Disaster Fund to maintain emergency shelters, provide relief supplies and material assistance to persons directly affected by the event. The provision of relief must be consistent with the relevant regulations and within the administrative frameworks established by law.

In this regard the DRDM will:

- Ensure that persons rendered homeless by a disaster will be provided with temporary shelter with particular attention being given to low-income groups, the elderly, the handicapped and other vulnerable groups;
- Promote the cooperation of and consult with the appropriate public, private and non-governmental entities in ensuring the provision of relief assistance;

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• Take action to support programmes that will expedite the rehabilitation of those rendered homeless as a result of a disaster;
• Make budgetary provision for the maintenance and stocking of emergency shelters;
• Maintain emergency shelters in accordance with expert advice;
• Enter into memoranda of understanding with the owners or suppliers of critical infrastructure necessary in an emergency; and
• Bear the cost of returning any privately owned facilities used in the response and relief effort, to their pre-disaster state.

Government assistance in such circumstance should not be perceived as a replacement for insurance.

Relief assistance will be provided on the basis of need, after thorough needs assessments have been conducted and must be coordinated by the DRDM.

Mechanisms for the activation and mobilisation of additional resources for response and recovery measures must be clearly set out in operational or contingency plans, including appropriate budgetary provisions.

**Special measures for Reproductive Health (RH) / HIV/AIDS and Gender Components during relief and recovery operations**

It is critical that during disasters the reproductive health needs of women and men are highlighted. Women, especially have special reproductive health needs during disasters. Women and girls may be cut-off from health services and in particular from access to reproductive health services.

The following RH/HIV/AIDS and Gender issues must be taken into consideration especially when communities are displaced and are relocated.

• Engaging the involvement of women in camp management and in the organisation, coordination and the distribution of food;
• Training of humanitarian workers, security and police officers, defence personnel and humanitarian workers on Gender Based Violence (GBV);
• Raising awareness on the different forms of GBV and providing information on how to access care should the need arise;
• Ensuring the presence of a protection officer on site (for example training a volunteer to raise awareness on the problem and work with the authorities to identify measures to prevent GBV but also to be at the forefront of assistance to survivors;
• Providing psychosocial care to cater for victims of violence as well as to help those affected to cope with the difficulties posed by life in the camp environment; and
• Providing RH kits such as hygiene kits, contraceptive kits, male and female condoms, delivery kits for pregnant women and for the birth attendants
Disaster Recovery

Disaster recovery operations are a vital aspect of disaster risk management as the effects of disasters continue long after the immediate threats to life and property have diminished. The goal of the recovery effort is to facilitate the recovery of affected individuals, communities and the social and economic infrastructure as quickly as possible in an effective, efficient and sustainable manner.

The primary strategies for disaster recovery are to:

- Identify and prioritise recovery activities;
- Promote effective coordinated actions among all agencies;
- Promote timely decision making and the implementation of decisions;
- Eliminate duplication of effort and a waste of resources;
- Provide appropriate accounting and reporting arrangements;
- Ensure the dissemination of public information;
- Reduce vulnerability to the same hazards in the future; and to
- Maintain a culture of accountability in the use of disaster relief funds and materials.

Psychosocial support

Post traumatic counselling must form an integral component of the recovery phase which should continue for an extended period of time beyond the initial disaster recovery phase for the medium to long term. Efforts should concentrate on restoring a sense of community and normality. It is often when those affected by disaster come to the full realisation of what they have lost that their needs are greatest, as those most affected have to deal with long-term despair and post-traumatic stress.

It is therefore critical to plan for this phase, ensuring that resources are available to those groups within the population for whom the passing of the event is just the beginning of their recovery. Psychosocial support must be provided by relevant sectors including the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Faith Based Organisations and any other sector with the necessary expertise.

Rehabilitation and Reconstruction
In order to ensure a holistic approach to rehabilitation and reconstruction in the aftermath of a significant event or disaster, the OMA tasked with the primary responsibility for a known hazard, must facilitate the establishment of project teams for this purpose. These teams must bear responsibility of conducting in-depth post-disaster assessments in order to identify priority rehabilitation and reconstruction activities.

Checks and balances must be effected to ensure that projects and programmes maintain a developmental focus. Project teams established for this purpose must determine their own terms of reference and key performance indicators and must report on progress to the NDRMC.

All rehabilitation and reconstruction strategies following a disaster shall be implemented in an integrated and developmental manner.

**Imperative 4: Establish mechanisms for the engagement of volunteers in support of disaster response efforts**

When disasters occur, the initial response comes from those directly affected. Broad community participation in disaster risk management, as well as the enrolment of individuals as volunteers must be actively promoted and encouraged. Mechanisms for the deployment of volunteers must be outlined in operational plans. Local Authorities must mobilise volunteers to take steps to deal with a disaster situation in an appropriate manner until the specialised agencies takes responsibility. The Disaster Risk Management Committees must maintain a register of all volunteers enrolled.

**Reimbursement and Compensation**

The GOS must reimburse and indemnify, to the extent and in such a manner as maybe prescribed, any volunteer or other person employed by government for any reasonable expense or liability incurred by such volunteer or other person as a result of:

- Carrying out an order or performing any disaster risk management activity; and
- Making available for the purpose of disaster risk management any land or other property.

Any claim for payment of compensation on death or injury to any officer in the Public Service shall apply in relation to a volunteer or other person performing any duty related to disaster risk management. Such compensation shall be in accordance with the Ministry of Finance Financial Act.

Payment for the use of land and other property shall be based on a reasonable cost agreed on between the GOS and the owner of the land or property.

**Indemnity**
The Local Authority, an employee or representative of the NDRMS, or any other person performing a function or exercising disaster risk management activities in terms of this NDRM Policy, is not liable for any action taken in good faith in terms of or in furthering the objects of this NDRM Policy.

Establish mechanisms for real time information management when a state of national disaster has been declared

When a state of national disaster has been declared, information management mechanisms must be established to provide adequate internal visibility to the event and to support the sharing of “near real-time” information, reports and other useful tools within the NDRMS. Appropriate tools and technologies such as GIS, maps and images must be identified for the specific disaster and provided to the users. The information mechanisms must be incorporated into the national disaster risk management information system as well as other existing information systems. Where possible the mechanisms must be capable of linking with relevant international information systems and accessing a variety of early warning and information websites for multiple sources for the dissemination of information such as:

- Earth observation systems;
- Geographic information systems (GIS);
- Global positioning systems (GPS);
- Remote sensing; and
- Internet and internet wireless connections.

Institutions that are useful for accessing the above-mentioned facilities include:

Information Requirements in Disaster Situations

Critical information requirements in disaster situations include:

- Forecast and early warning information;
- The number of people affected by location age groups and gender;
- The nature and extent of the disaster; and
- Immediate needs for food, shelter, water supplies, and sanitation and health services.

Rapid Impact Assessments

Disaster information must be gathered using standardised data collection tools that are included in standard operation procedures; as well as through inter-organisational coordination meetings; sentinel surveillance; and secondary data from existing profiles of areas affected by disasters. A multidisciplinary team comprising of technical expertise from the relevant OMAs and development partners must be established to conduct rapid impact assessments within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving reports of an impending or disaster situation. A rapid impact assessment report must be compiled and submitted to the NDRMC within seventy two (72) hours of the event. Every assessment team must be provided
with terms of reference (TOR) that include instructions and information related to a specific disaster or situation.

Conducting rapid impact assessments, is only the first structured step in the impact assessment process that will continue over a considerable period of time in order to sufficiently reflect the consequences of the disaster, compile and complete the information initially provided and more realistically describe the needs of the most vulnerable. As time progresses, clearer and more comprehensive data is compiled in the form of a detailed sector impact assessment which informs mid- and longer term response and relevant further programming.

A second assessment or re-assessment might be necessary in cases where insufficient information on the situation is available, or in the case of changing needs or budget constraints. The results of the detailed or second assessment are usually used to inform longer term action plans and for the revision of emergency appeals and more detailed programming.

**Establishment of a Reserve Communication System**

Good communication is essential for effective response. Since normal communication systems may be adversely affected as a result of the impact of the disaster, a reserve (Backup) communication system must be established. The reserve communication system must include field communication with support from the Police, Defence Force, Telecom companies or other relevant communication systems that could be used in disaster situations. The communication system must serve as the link between the Central, Regional and Field Command.

**Disaster Information Dissemination and Channels of Communication**

The Central Command Team must ensure that information is correctly processed and coordinated. This applies to:

- The acquisition of information;
- Impact assessment information;
- Decision making; and the
- Dissemination of decisions and information.

Disaster information must be disseminated timeously and must be shared widely with policy makers, stakeholders, communities and the media. Information gathered during disaster situations from the Field Command Teams must be channelled to the Regional Command Team and then to the Central Command Team. The information must be verified before dissemination. Only designated individuals may issue press/official statements.

**Coordination Meetings**
Coordination begins with the initiation of working relations and regular sharing of information with the aim of aligning individual responses and achieving synergy in the response efforts. Information sharing includes both written (minutes from meetings, reports) and verbal (teleconferences, briefings) information. Regular meetings for Field, Regional and Central Command Teams should be held to update members on the response activities as well as to compile reports.

Daily reports must be compiled by the Field Command Team. The Regional Command Team must submit adhoc reports as well as weekly reports to the Central Command Team.

Inter-agency coordination meetings must be convened to ensure a multi-sectoral overview of the situation and of the response operations. The meetings are aimed at ensuring sectoral coordination for an integrated and holistic response. The meetings must be convened by the designated sector that has been assigned the primary responsibility for the coordination of the response to a specific disaster threat.

**Reviews and Reports**

Comprehensive reviews must be conducted routinely after all significant events and events classified as disasters. The findings will directly influence the review and updating of disaster risk management plans and will also serve as valuable training aids.

**Key Performance Indicators for KPA 4:**

- Mechanisms for a uniform approach to the dissemination of effective and appropriate early warnings have been developed and implemented.
- Effective and appropriate early warning strategies have been developed and implemented.
- Early warning information has been communicated to the relevant stakeholders to enable appropriate response.
• Regular emergency/disaster preparedness exercises, simulations and drills are held to ensure rapid and effective responses.
• Funding mechanisms have been established to support disaster preparedness measures.
• Specific measures have been established to engage the participation of all stakeholders in disaster preparedness measures.
• Regulations and directives to standardise and regulate the practice and management of response and recovery operations at all have been developed and gazetted or published.
• Mechanisms have been identified and implemented for the classification of disaster and for the declaration of a state of national disaster.
• Mechanisms have been identified and established for the coordination and management of integrated responses to significant events and disasters that occur or threaten to occur.
• A national standard response management system which includes standard operating procedures has been developed; is reviewed and is updated annually; as well as after every significant event and disaster.
• Mechanisms have been identified and implemented for the management of disaster relief and recovery operations.
• Rehabilitation and reconstruction strategies following a significant event or disaster are implemented in an integrated and developmental manner.
• The stakeholders/sectors which bear the primary responsibility for contingency planning and the coordination of known priority hazards have been identified and assigned such responsibility.
• Post disaster teams for early recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction have been established and operate effectively.
• Mechanisms for the monitoring of rehabilitation and reconstruction projects have been established and regular progress reports are submitted to the National Disaster risk management Committee through the DRDM.
• Mechanisms have been identified and implemented for the engagement of volunteers to support disaster response and recovery operations; and for reimbursement, compensation and indemnity.
• Mechanisms have been established for real time information management when a state of national disaster has been declared and the mechanisms have been incorporated in to the national disaster risk management information management and communication system.

Key Performance Area 5: Enhance information and knowledge management for disaster risk management

A comprehensive disaster risk management information management system and an integrated communication system are essential components of an effective NDRMS in Seychelles.
Disasters can be substantially reduced if people are well informed and motivated towards a culture of disaster prevention and resilience, which in turn requires the collection, compilation and dissemination of relevant knowledge and information on hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities. Information and knowledge management cuts across all five Key Performance Areas.

Integrated disaster risk management requires access to reliable hazard and risk information and an effective emergency communication system that enables the exchange of information between stakeholders.

KPA 5 focuses on four imperatives which must be implemented to provide mechanisms that will enhance information and knowledge management for disaster risk management in Seychelles.

The four imperatives which must be applied to effectively achieve the objective of KPA 5 are:

1. Develop and establish a comprehensive disaster risk management information management and exchange system in Seychelles
2. Develop and establish mechanisms to enhance disaster risk management knowledge management in relevant sections of school curricula in Seychelles
3. Develop and establish mechanisms to enhance research in disaster risk management in Seychelles.
4. Develop and establish mechanisms to create public awareness on disaster risk management in Seychelles.

The DDRM&CP must design and implement a comprehensive integrated national disaster risk management information management and exchange system. The system must have capabilities that will enable risk to be managed on an ongoing basis and must facilitate timely decision making when significant events and disasters occur or threaten to occur. The system must have the capacity to support the requirements of the NDRMS and in particular must support the requirements of the five KPAs as well as information on funding for disaster risk management and for exercising financial control.

The design of the system must include capabilities for:

- Providing understandable information on disaster risk and protection options and on actions to reduce risks and build resilience in high-risk communities and areas;
- Promoting the use and application of appropriate information and communication technology (ICT), space-based technologies and related services to support disaster risk reduction for training and information dissemination;
- Promoting and improving dialogue and cooperation among scientific communities and practitioners working on disaster risk reduction, and encouraging partnerships among stakeholders, including those working on the socioeconomic dimensions of disaster risk reduction;
- Acquiring, sorting, storing, analysing, disseminating and maintaining an integrated disaster risk management database; and
• Communication links with all disaster risk management stakeholders and including two way emergency communication links to communities and areas at risk.
• Communication links with all disaster risk management stakeholders and including two way emergency communication links to communities and areas at risk.

**Imperative 2: Develop and establish mechanisms to enhance disaster risk management knowledge management in relevant sections of school curricula in Seychelles**

Promoting a culture of risk avoidance and capacitating disaster risk management stakeholders by integrating disaster risk management knowledge into curricula of education systems and widespread public awareness initiatives are fundamental to mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development.

The DRDM must develop and establish mechanisms that will enhance disaster risk management knowledge management in Seychelles. The mechanisms must serve to:

• Promote the integration of disaster risk management knowledge in the school curricula at all levels;
• Promote the integration disaster risk management knowledge in the relevant training and learning programmes for stakeholders including development planners, emergency managers and local government officials;
• Establish standards, mechanisms for accreditation and registration of disaster risk management training that are compliant with the Education Act;
• Facilitate widespread community-based disaster risk management training programmes considering the role of volunteers, as appropriate, to enhance local capacities to mitigate and cope with disasters; and
• Ensure equal access to appropriate training and educational opportunities for women and vulnerable constituencies; promote gender and cultural sensitivity training as integral components of education and training for disaster risk reduction.

**Imperative 3: Develop and establish mechanisms to enhance research in disaster risk management in Seychelles**

Government can promote applied research by developing a national research agenda, creating opportunities for dialogue among academics, professionals and the private sector. The NDRMC must encourage and guide research in disaster risk management and avail necessary resources and funds for the research and academic community. The NDRMC must develop and establish mechanisms to enhance research in disaster risk management in Seychelles through:
• Promoting and strengthening scientific, research and technical capacity in disaster risk reduction;
• Strengthening the technical and scientific capacity to develop and apply methodologies, studies and models to assess vulnerabilities to and the impact of geological, technological, biological weather, water and climate-related hazards, including the improvement of monitoring capacities and assessments; and
• Encouraging academic disciplines, private sector and key government actors in the collection, synthesis, dissemination and use of available information.

**Imperative 4: Develop and establish mechanisms to create public awareness on disaster risk management in Seychelles**

Public awareness activities foster changes in behaviour towards a culture of risk reduction. This involves public information, dissemination, education, radio and television broadcasts and use of the print media. It also involves the establishment of information centres, networks and community participation initiatives. In order to increase public awareness on disaster risk management, the NDRMS under the auspices of the DRDM must:

- Promote the engagement of the media to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience and strong community involvement through sustained public education and consultations;
- Make disaster risk management information accessible free of charge to all;
- Secure continued resources for implementing awareness campaigns;
- Establish relationships with media professionals and other commercial and marketing interests for sustained public awareness campaigns; and
- Engage respected local officials, religious and community leaders and other interest groups to disseminate information on disaster risk reduction and popular participation in disaster risk reduction activities.

**Key Performance Indicators for KPA 5:**

- A functional comprehensive and integrated national disaster risk management information management and communication system has been designed and implemented in Seychelles at All level, that supports the NDRMS, DRM funding and the five Key Performances Areas for the implementation of the NDRM Policy.
- Functional communication links have been established and are maintained with all disaster risk management stakeholders.
- Two-way emergency communication links have been established with communities and areas at risk.
- The core concepts of disaster risk management have been integrated into school curricula at all levels and in the relevant training and learning programmes of disaster risk management stakeholders.
• Standards and mechanisms for accreditation and registration of disaster risk management training that are compliant with the Education Act have been developed and implemented.
• Disaster risk management research contributes disaster risk reduction and to technology development.
• Widespread community-based disaster risk management training (in accordance with national training standards) is taking place on a continuous basis.
• The media and private sector is engaged in promoting a culture of disaster risk management awareness, disaster resilience and strong community involvement.
• Disaster risk management information is accessible free of charge to all.
The NDRM Policy acknowledges that managing disaster risk is a shared responsibility and that establishing a comprehensive and robust NDRMS requires a multi-disciplinary approach. In this regard, the policy recognises the value of establishing sound working relationships with all disaster risk management stakeholders and development partners in Seychelles and internationally. Disaster risk management development partners include the United Nations organisation in general, other relevant international and nongovernmental organisations, donor agencies, the private sector, faith and community based organisations and the Red Cross Society of Seychelles.

All disaster risk management programmes that are initiated by stakeholders and development partners in Seychelles must be guided by the fundamental principles and objectives of this policy.

The Department of Disaster Risk Management and Civil Protection on behalf of the Government of Seychelles is responsible for facilitating the coordination and integration of the efforts of the various stakeholders before, during and after significant events and disasters. Stakeholders and development partners must collaborate with DRDM in order to integrate their DRM work plans, programmes and activities with each other by participating in the multi-stakeholder planning teams.

**The role and responsibilities of the United Nations agencies and other development partners**

United Nations agencies and other development partners will continue to play a pivotal role in supporting government efforts to strengthen capacities for disaster risk management and to supplement efforts in mobilising resources for disaster risk management in Seychelles. These collaborative relationships must be diligently pursued and nurtured at all levels. This applies particularly to the continued assistance given to Seychelles by the United Nations agencies in its efforts to achieve sustainable human development through building capacity in the design and implementation of development programmes. This will be achieved by integrating disaster risk reduction into the UN agencies’ programs and activities dealing with other development priorities which include poverty reduction, sustainable development, women’s empowerment, natural resource management and good governance.

The NDRM Policy provides mechanisms for the coordination and integration of the contributions of UN agencies and other development partners with those of other disaster risk management stakeholders in Seychelles through the NDRMC and similar multi-stakeholder platforms in the regional and local context.
Red Cross Society of Seychelles

The Red Cross Society Seychelles (RCSS) which serves as an auxiliary to government and operates through the Seychelles Red Cross Act is a critical partner in disaster risk management. As an affiliate of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (IFRC), the RCSS complies with the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; the NGOs in Disaster Relief; and in accordance with the guidelines given in the Sphere standards.

The RCSS is thus instrumental in the provision of humanitarian assistance to communities affected by disasters and further contributes to disaster risk reduction and building community resilience to disasters. The DRM policy recognises the role of the RCSS and facilitates unimpeded access to enable it to deliver humanitarian assistance to those affected by disaster, as well as the vital role it plays in the mobilisation of both internal and external resources for disaster risk management.

International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs)

Cooperation with other INGOs is crucial to strengthening capacities for disaster risk management in S. It is therefore important to adopt an inter-agency approach by integrating the individual mandates of the INGOs to avoid gaps and duplications. The NDRM Policy recognises the need to coordinate the influx of international aid in the country in times of significant events and disasters in order to effect a fair distribution of capacities and resources, and at the same time to optimise the assistance they offered for the purposes of disaster risk management.

National Non-Governmental Organisations, Faith and Community Based Organisations

The vital role that national NGOs, Faith and Community Based Organisations play in the application of effective disaster risk management activities in the country is acknowledged. The contribution that NGOs, Faith and Community Based Organisations can make is most valuable as they are flexible and respond rapidly, effectively and appropriately to urgent needs.

The NDRM Policy provides mechanisms for the coordination and integration of the contributions of national NGOs, Faith and Community Based Organisations with those of other disaster risk management stakeholders in Seychelles through the NDRMC and similar multi-stakeholder platforms in the regional and local context.
The private sector

The NDRM Policy recognises the vital role that private sector has to play in the application of total disaster risk management in Seychelles. Disaster risk management is a shared responsibility and the establishment of public/private sector partnerships (PPP) is an essential element of making disaster risk reduction a priority in Seychelles. The private sector plays a vital role in addressing disaster risk management especially in terms of availing and mobilising resources, providing assistance with technical input, implementing safe work practices, conducting risk and vulnerability assessments and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into all new development projects. There are many ways in which the private sector can contribute to disaster risk reduction such as improving capacity to ease airport logistics in crises and providing support in field-based emergency telecommunications.

Training and Research Institutions

Promoting a culture of disaster risk reduction among stakeholders requires capacity building through integrated education, training and public awareness programmes that are informed by scientific research.

Training and research institutions in Seychelles have a vital role to play in:

- Creating additional applied knowledge and information on disaster risk management and integrating it into current curricula;
- Providing all stakeholders and role players with access to disaster risk management and related information; and
- Providing an organised value-added advisory service to all stakeholders.

The NDRMS must interact with tertiary institutions in Seychelles to identify priorities for collaborative research and development that promotes disaster risk reduction. The NDF makes provision for the funding of disaster risk management research and the NDRMS must promote and support the funding of disaster risk management research and the publication and dissemination of research results. The NDRMS must also give priority to establishing mechanisms for the integration of disaster risk management research into other related developmental research programmes such as those contributing to poverty reduction and environmental management.
The Media

The media is an important primary source of disaster risk information. It significantly influences how the population and the government views, perceives, and responds to hazards and disasters. For example, the right information helps government and humanitarian organisations to understand better the needs of affected communities and ways to meet those needs.

The role of the media during disasters must be defined and managed through a consultative process involving the media, stakeholders in disaster risk management and especially communities that are routinely affected by disasters or impending disasters. The media must be encouraged to focus on emphasising the underlying causes of disasters and must contribute to inculcating a culture of risk avoidance behaviour amongst the people of Seychelles. The media can do this by informing the public on the importance of understanding early warnings and reinforcing the need to take heed of early warnings. It is equally important that the media maintains its presence not only during the acute phase of disasters but also during post disaster activities to highlight the aftermath and long-term effects of disasters during the recovery and rehabilitation phases.

Informed publicity about disaster risk management initiatives and achievements will increase public awareness and support particularly in the aftermath of a disaster.
RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

The NDRM Policy provides an overall framework for the NDRMS in Seychelles. The policy is supported by and complements other national plans, policies and legislations relevant to disaster risk management. In addition, the policy provides mechanisms for reconciling all policies and strategies relevant to disaster risk management in Seychelles.

In this regard, the NDRM Policy aims to:

- Integrate disaster risk reduction where relevant into development policies and planning at all levels of government, specifically in the poverty reduction strategies sector as well as in other relevant multi-sector policies and plans;
- Adopt or modify where necessary, other relevant legislation to support disaster risk management including regulations and mechanisms that encourage compliance with disaster risk reduction principles and that promote incentives for undertaking disaster risk reduction activities; and to
- Recognise the importance and the specificity of local risk patterns and trends and to decentralise responsibilities and resources for disaster risk management accordingly to relevant regional and local authorities.
RELATIONSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL PROTOCOLS AND CONVENTIONS

The NDRM Policy recognises the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, which offers guiding principles, priorities for action and practical means for making disaster risk reduction a priority to achieve disaster resilience for vulnerable communities. The objectives of Seychelles NDRM Policy are derived from those priorities for action and the key performance areas for implementation of the NDRM Policy are built on the objectives.

In addition the NDRM Policy is equally committed to the Africa Regional Strategy for disaster risk reduction which aims to contribute to the attainment of sustainable development and poverty eradication by facilitating the integration of disaster risk reduction into development.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Disaster Strategy which is currently under review also provides positive impetus to the NDRM Policy Goal which is to reduce disaster risk and build communities resilience to disasters.

The NDRM Policy, apart from the abovementioned international and African strategies, also recognises the provisions of other relevant international conventions, United Nations Resolutions, and African Charters that provide a global framework for disaster risk management.
National Disaster Risk Management Policy

Appendices

Appendix 1: Institutional Structure of the Seychelles Disaster Risk Management System

The President

Cabinet of Ministers

Ministry Responsible for Disaster Risk Management

National Disaster Risk Management Committee

Department of Disaster Risk Management and Civil Protection

National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Government Ministry’s, Departments and Agency’s

Civil Society’s, NGO’s, FBO’s

Private Sector

UN Organizations, Others
Appendix 2: Role and Responsibilities of the National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC)

The NDRMC is a multi-stakeholder platform assigned responsibility for disaster risk management in Seychelles. The NDRMC is directly accountable to President.

The NDRMC must mobilize resources for the application of total disaster risk management in Seychelles and to meet the urgent needs created by a disaster.

To achieve this the NDRMC must:

1. Meet at least quarterly to monitor progress with the implementation of the NDRMC Policy and to ensure that the relevant ministries are meeting objectives of the NDRM Policy;

2. Report to the President/Cabinet quarterly on progress with the implementation of the NDRM Policy;

3. Ensure that the core concepts of disaster risk reduction are integrated into the activities of each relevant ministry and that each of the relevant ministries takes primary responsibility for disaster risk management within their sector;

4. Ensure the establishment of effective and functional disaster risk management at all levels;

5. Ensure that disaster risk reduction is integrated into all development policies, strategies and programmes at all levels;

6. Support and mobilize resources for improved disaster risk assessment, the quality of information and data on disaster risk and for strengthening early warning systems;

7. Support the enhancement of skills and capacities for DRM at all levels;

8. Promote and strengthen scientific research and technical capacity in disaster risk reduction;

9. Advocate the development of national information and knowledge management strategies and the establishment of stakeholder networks for disaster risk;

10. Prepare, review and update disaster risk management policy;

11. Provide real time advice to the President/Cabinet on Emergency/disaster situations;

12. Support the integration of DRR training into the Seychelles school curricula, post-secondary institutions, Police and Defence Academy and other training institution
13. Facilitate the training opportunities in disaster risk management for policy makers;

14. Endorse the DRM strategies and plans; and

15. Periodically review policy issues regarding international appeals, soliciting, the acceptance and the use of international assistance, including international personnel. These reviews will include specifications on the acceptability and appropriateness of personnel, food and other commodities as donations.
Appendix 3: Role and Responsibilities of the Division Disaster Risk Management

The Department of disaster risk management are responsible for disaster risk management in the Republic of Seychelles.

Objectives of the Disaster Risk Management Division —

(a) The Disaster Risk Management Division should play a role as the national body responsible for Disaster Risk Management and Civil protection on a national level and play a key role in supporting regional and local level DRM initiatives and response.

(b) The principal objectives of the Department shall be to implement and monitor a comprehensive, integrated disaster risk management in Seychelles on all levels (national, regional, local) within the four phase of the disaster risk management continuum by facilitating and coordinating the development and implementation of integrated disaster risk management systems through the guidance of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy and international Disaster risk management guidelines.

The function of the Department shall be to —

(a) To design methods, establish norms and criteria under local and international auditing guidelines to undertake Hazard surveillance, identification, analysis, Risk Assessment to implement Disaster Risk Reduction activities through lead government agencies, NGO’S, Civil Society, statutory bodies and Private Sectors.

(b) To be the national coordinating and monitoring body for disaster risk management and promote a uniform approach to disaster risk management among Ministries, Departments of Government, district disaster management committees, statutory bodies, communities, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and Faith based organizations including the adoption of common standards and best practices;

(c) To prepare a National Disaster risk Management Plan and Strategy having regard to among other things the national disaster policy and disaster Risk management plans and strategies prepared by Ministries, Departments of Government, district disaster risk management
committees, statutory bodies, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and Faith based organization;

(d) Such other plans, strategies, procedures and guidelines as the Director General considers necessary or as recommended by the NDC or the Minister

(e) To coordinate the implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy and legislation;

(f) To develop guidelines to inform the preparation of disaster Risk management plans and related strategies by Ministries, Departments, disaster management committees, statutory bodies, private sector entities, communities, nongovernmental organizations and Faith based organizations;

(g) To provide on request, technical assistance to Ministries, Departments of Government, and district disaster management committees, statutory bodies, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and Faith based organizations in preparing disaster management plans and strategies in accordance with guidelines developed under paragraph (d);

(h) To review and approve the disaster risk management plan of each Ministry, Department, disaster management committee, community, private sector, non-governmental organization, Faith based organization and statutory body;

(i) To monitor the implementation of the National Disaster risk Management Plan and the disaster risk management plan of each Ministry, Department, disaster management committee, community, private sector, non-governmental organization, Faith based organisation and statutory body;

(j) Develop and monitor guidelines to be followed by Ministries, Departments, disaster management committees, communities, private sector, nongovernmental organizations, Faith based organizations and statutory bodies for the purpose of integrating risk reduction and mitigation in development projects and other initiatives;

(k) Monitor, coordinate and give directions regarding mitigation and preparedness measures to be taken by Ministries, Departments of
Government, disaster risk management committees, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and Faith based organizations; (l) Collaborate with relevant agencies, nongovernmental organizations and Faith based organizations and such other bodies or persons as the Division deems necessary—

(i) Identifying, analyzing and mapping hazards and conducting related research into their effects and developing control measures, preparedness and responses strategy;

(ii) To conduct vulnerability and risk assessments and investigations as and when required to determine vulnerable areas for each hazard;

(iii) To encourage and support the development of community based sustainable development programmes and interventions aimed at reducing the risk and impact of hazards and disasters and harness community resources for disaster preparedness, response and recovery;

(iv) To encourage and support the establishment of resilience critical infrastructures;

(m) To plan and coordinate specialized training programmes for persons involved in disaster risk management including volunteers;

(n) To provide business continuity planning advice and assistance to the private sector as resources permit;

(o) To coordinate the conduct of assessments following a disaster;

(p) To promote general education and awareness in relation to disaster risk management and use such mechanisms as necessary to stimulate public interest in disaster management and in securing public cooperation and participation in achieving planned objectives—

(i) To act as a repository and conduit for hazard and other disaster related information and collaborate with relevant agencies, nongovernmental organizations and Faith based organizations and such other bodies and persons as it thinks necessary in the collection, processing and analysis of such information;
To develop and maintain a database on disaster related information including climate change and other new and emerging threats and ensure access to the database by stakeholders including special vulnerable areas declared.

(iii) To develop, monitor and review a National Risk Reduction Strategy;

(iv) To provide advice to relevant agencies and other entities in the planning of mass crowd events;

(v) To perform such other duties and functions as may be assigned from time to the time by the Minister

(A) Ensure that regular vulnerability assessments are conducted in collaboration with co-operating partners; supervise risk and vulnerability assessments and mapping of the country;

(B) Review and evaluate appropriate Early Warning Reports in accordance with identified risks and vulnerabilities as well as preparedness plans for the country (including District);

(q) To reduce Seychelles vulnerability to disasters in the identified areas of concern (geographical or sectoral) and to put in place appropriate measures that minimizes the impact or negative effects of disaster.

(r) Encourage and facilitate development of new technologies in risk and vulnerability reduction programmes including Early Warning systems and carry out risk awareness campaigns;

(s) Coordinate and monitor long term risk and vulnerability reduction, rehabilitation and recovery programmes carried out by other stakeholders and players in the country, coordinate and facilitate resources mobilization for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction programmes carried out by line ministries and other agencies including those by NGOs, CBOs.
The Department shall be responsible for effective implementation of integrated emergency Management, Coordination and emergency arrangement through the following guidelines

(a) Set out specific requirements and uniform procedures in relation to those matters which can be standardized nationally, including the declaration of an emergency, allocation of functions and responsibilities between the agencies;

(b) Command and control of operations and inter-agency coordination arrangements;

(c) Mobilizing, controlling and making the best use of available resources for response at local, regional, national and international level, as appropriate;

(d) Set out and allocating responsibility for ensuring that appropriate inter-agency co-ordination arrangements are developed and in place at all level for effective co-ordination of individual response efforts to emergencies, so that the combined result is greater than the sum of their individual efforts;

(e) Providing common terminology to facilitate coordinated and safe working;

(f) Identifying and prioritizing risks so as to ensure that existing services are prepared and equipped to deal with a range of realistic potential emergencies;

(g) Underpinning collective preparedness by the principal response agencies so as to ensure a prompt and effective coordinated response by them to emergency; and Ensuring that downstream crises/consequences arising from an emergency are managed effectively;

(h) Activate response mechanisms for effective, timely search and rescue operations, in order to save lives and minimize damage to property, in times of a crisis;

(i) Ensuring the protection and care of the public at times of vulnerability;

(j) Clear leadership in times of crisis, early, appropriate response, and efficient, coordinated operations;
(k) Realistic and rational approach, capable of being delivered, transparent systems, with accountability and harnessing community spirit;

(l) The ethos of self-protection, maintenance of essential services; and safe working;

(m) To put in place measures to restore livelihoods and other life support;

(n) Evaluate the preparedness at all Ministries, Department of Governments, district disaster management committees, communities, statutory bodies including an evaluation of related facilities, equipment and personnel for the purpose of responding to any threat of disaster or disaster and give directions, where necessary, for enhancing preparedness;

(o) Coordinate response in the event of a threat of a disaster or an emergency;

(p) Organize and execute various drills and exercise annually and a full scale exercise every 2 years; and

(q) Advise, assist and coordinate the activities of Ministries, Departments of Government, District Administration, statutory bodies, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and faith based organizations;

The Department shall, to the greatest possible extent consistent with the performance of its functions, consult and co-operate with Ministries, Departments of Government, disaster management committees, communities, statutory bodies, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and Faith based organizations having functions related to, or having aims or objects related to those of the Division.

The Department shall have power for the purpose of carrying out its functions to do all such acts as appear to it to be requisite, advantageous or convenient for or in connection with the carrying out of its functions or to be incidental to their proper discharge and may carry on any activities in that behalf either alone or in association with any other person or body.
Appendix 4: Role and responsibilities of the National Focal Persons (NFP)

The responsibilities of the national focal persons are to:

1. Facilitate and co-ordinate the relevant office/ministry/agency’s disaster risk management arrangements and planning;

2. Facilitate the mobilization of resources to manage significant events and disasters relevant to the functional area of the sector;

3. Oversee the effective implementation of disaster risk management activities of the relevant office/ministry/agency;

4. Participate in disaster risk assessment processes including the assessment of post disaster impact;

5. Activate office/ministry/agency operational units according to their contingency plans;

6. Monitor and evaluate the capacity and resources of the relevant office/ministry/agency to meet demands of significant events and disasters;

7. Coordinate the analysis and review of the relevant office/ministry/agency disaster risk management policies and plans;

8. Facilitate the conduct of simulation exercises to test the relevant office/ministry/agency contingency plans; and

9. Facilitate the training of the relevant office/ministry/agency staff in disaster risk reduction and participate in integrated disaster risk reduction training for regional staff in DRR.
Appendix 5: Role and responsibilities of the District Disaster Risk Management System (DDRMS)

The role and responsibilities of the DDRMS are to:

1. Conduct disaster risk assessments within the District area of jurisdiction;
2. Integrate the District disaster risk management plans into the National plans;
3. Prepare and update the District response and recovery plans and ensure that all requisite District emergency planning and preparedness measures are undertaken.
4. Ensure that an adequate District emergency response capability is in place, including volunteer resources.
5. Facilitate and coordinate disaster risk management activities in the District;
6. Mobilize resources for disaster risk management in the District;
7. Facilitate the implementation of public information and public awareness programmes and ensuring appropriate emergency warning are provided;
8. Act as primary responding and mitigation agent within the existing capacities of the District;
9. Act as the channel of communication for the District on all issues related to disaster risk management and representing the District interests in emergency management to other spheres of government and contributing to decision-making processes;
10. In partnership with stakeholders participate in disaster risk assessments processes and facilitate the development of disaster risk management planning;
11. Ensure the development, implementation and maintenance of disaster risk reduction strategies, which will result in resilient areas, communities, households and individuals;
12. Facilitate the development of disaster response and recovery plans, ensuring that appropriate resources and arrangements are in place to provide emergency relief and recovery services and participate in post-emergency assessment and analysis;
13. Regularly test the District contingency plans;
14. Assist with the establishment of mechanisms for creating public awareness to inculcate a culture of risk avoidance;

15. Guide the development of a comprehensive information management and effective communication system;

16. Align District early warning systems and facilitate the establishment of local disaster risk information database;

17. Make provision for education, training and research strategy;

18. Monitor compliance with the five key DRM performance areas and initiatives for the integration/mainstreaming of DRM into development planning at all levels;

19. Liaise and consult with DDRM&CP on all issues pertaining to disaster risk management; and

20. Submit quarterly and annual reports, minutes of meetings and resolutions made by the DDRMS and any information related to disaster risk management to DDRM&CP.
Appendix 6: An overview of key UN Organizations

Disaster risk reduction in the United Nations

This annex provides a brief overview of some of the key UN organizations involved in disaster risk reduction activities.

1. United Nations International Strategy on Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Specialized UN Agencies

A number of specialized UN Agencies also work on important elements of disaster risk reduction. These include:

1. World Meteorological organization (WMO)
2. World Health Organization (WHO)
3. United Nation Children Fund (UNICEF)
4. United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)
5. United Nation High Commission for Refugee (UNCHR)
6. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
7. World Food Programme (WFP)
8. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
9. United Nation Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)
Appendix 7: The basic stages of the disaster risk management process

Risk management is the systematic approach and practice of managing uncertainty to minimize potential harm and loss. Risk management comprises of risk assessment and analysis, and the implementation of strategies and specific actions to control, reduce and transfer risks.

Risk assessment is a methodology to determine the nature and extent of risk by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm exposed people, property, assets, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend.
Appendix 7.1: Integrated Risk Management

Risk and associated risk mapping include: a review of the technical characteristics of hazards such as their location, intensity, frequency and probability; the analysis of exposure and vulnerability including the physical social, health economic and environmental dimensions; and the evaluation of effectiveness of prevailing and alternative coping capacities in respect to likely risk scenarios.
**Appendix 8: Classification of Hazards**

**Hazard**
A potentially damaging physical event/phenomenon and/or human activity, which may cause loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.

**Natural Hazard**
Natural processes or phenomena occurring in the biosphere that may constitute a damaging event. Natural hazards can be classified according to their geological, hydro meteorological or biological origin.

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| **Hydro meteorological hazards**  
Natural processes or phenomena of atmospheric, hydrological or oceanographic nature. | Floods, debris and mudflows  
Windstorms, storm surges, lightning, blizzards and other severe storms  
Drought, desertification, wild land fires, temperature extremes, sand or dust storms  
Permafrost, snow avalanches |
| **Geological hazards**  
Natural earth processes or phenomena that include processes of endogenous origin or tectonic or exogenous origin, such as mass movements. | Earthquakes, tsunamis  
Volcanic activity and emissions  
Mass movements, that is, landslides, rockslides, liquefaction, sub-marine slides  
Surface collapse, geological fault activity |
| **Biological hazards**  
Processes of organic origin or those conveyed by biological vectors, including exposure to pathogenic micro-organisms, toxins and bioactive substances. | Outbreaks of epidemic diseases, plant or animal contagion and extensive infestations |
| **Technological hazards**  
Danger associated to technological or industrial accidents, infrastructure failures or certain human activities which may cause the loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation, sometimes referred to as anthropogenic hazards. Examples include industrial pollution, nuclear activity and radioactivity, toxic waste, dam failure, transport, industrial or technological accidents (explosions, fires, and spills). | |
| **Environmental degradation**  
Processes induced by human behavior and activities (sometimes combined with natural hazards) that damage the natural resource base or adversely alter natural processes or ecosystems. Potential effects are varied and may contribute to an increase in vulnerability and the frequency and intensity of natural hazards. Examples include land degradation, deforestation, desertification, wild land fires, and loss of biodiversity, land, water and air pollution, climate change, sea level rise and ozone depletion. | |
| **Physical Hazards**  
Danger associated with Heat, Lighting, Noise, Vibration, Ionizing Radiation, Dust, Pressure and Electricity | |
**Mechanical Hazards**

Danger associated with Manual handling – over exertion, lifting or pulling, unguarded machines, Hydraulic pressure, Gravitational energy – falls of people or objects.

**Social-Organizational Hazards**

Wars, conflict, Meetings and Demonstrations, Thefts, Sabotage, Interruption of Services, Terrorism, Crowds (Stampede) Major accidents, Bomb threat

**Hazard Factors to Consider**

**Factor 1:** The same hazard can often cause more injury/illness to one person than another.

**Factor 2:** The potential to cause injury/illness can be different for different hazards.

**Factor 3:** Not all hazards take the same time to cause injury/illness; the time duration and event frequency of hazards is often a determining factor when assessing hazard potential.

**Factor 4:** People often have different perceptions of potential hazards and the damage the hazards can cause.
Seychelles National Integrated Emergency Management Plan (NIEMP)
Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM)
Approval

This Seychelles National Integrated Emergency Management Plan is approved:

on __________________________________________________________

by __________________________________________________________

Minister ___________________________ Date ________________________

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Acknowledgments

The Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) would like to express its gratitude to all of the stakeholders who have contributed in one way or another to the successful completion of the National Integrated Emergency Management Plan (NIEMP).

DRDM would like to express its sincere thanks to the World Bank team, who provided the technical support and devoted their time in developing this plan. The process of developing the NIEMP was made possible after a series of interviews, meetings, and workshops with numerous and relevant stakeholders. DRDM is very thankful to all the district administrators, ministries, department, and agencies, Seychelles Red Cross Society, NGOs, private sector representatives, experts, the staff from the DRDM, and other participants for their valuable contribution to the successful completion of this Plan.

The World Bank team was led by Ana Campos Garcia, Elad Shenfeld, Paul Hayden, and Brenden Jongman. Adam McAllister, Arnon Regev, Bezalel Traiber participated in the initial diagnostics and discussions. The work was financed by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) through two initiatives of the Africa Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, financed by the European Union (EU) and implemented by GFDRR and the World Bank, namely the ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program and the Africa Disaster Risk Financing Initiative (ADRF), part of the wider ACP-EU Programme Building Disaster Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa.
The Government of Seychelles is firmly committed to the protection of its citizens and the natural environment of our country, as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles.

To give effect to the Constitutional provision, the Seychelles National Disaster Risk Management Policy 2014 and the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2014, call for the setting up of standards for disaster risk management across the Seychelles’ jurisdiction. The Act gives the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) the mandate to develop mechanisms in order to effectively prevent, prepare and promote mitigation measures to counter the effects of multi-hazard events.

Seychelles follows the Global Framework for Disaster Risk Management (Sendai Framework 2015–2030). Over the past decades the Seychelles islands have become increasingly vulnerable not only to hydro-meteorological events, but also to other human-induced hazards, thus threatening lives, properties and the environment, which eventually escalate to become negative impacts on the national economy.

In May 2018, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the project for the development and implementation of the first Seychelles National Integrated Emergency Management Plan (NIEMP). The plan will be utilized by the government to deliver emergency management services in the Seychelles under the leadership of Department of Risk and Disaster Management.

The Department received active support under a World Bank technical assistance programme and after a year of hard work and exchange between the two parties, a comprehensive plan has been produced. It was validated through a series of workshops in August and September 2019 by key stakeholders involved in disseminating relief support and emergency management functions towards disaster risk management.

The plan sets out the way forward for all stakeholders to develop their sectorial plans according to their functions as lead or support agencies in the five functional areas of the NIEMP. The functions of stakeholders will have to be reviewed in order to meet the expectation of the government to lower disaster risks by implementing an effective collaborative approach to reduce the effects of multi-hazard events.

The government is committed to providing support for the full implementation of the NIEMP and is determined to protect lives, properties and safeguard valuable assets of the Seychelles.

Mrs. Macsuzy Mondon
Designated Minister
Minister for Risk and Disaster Management
Introduction

The nature of disaster risks faced by the Republic of the Seychelles, both from natural events and human induced threats are very diverse and will continue to evolve. Therefore, the need to establish institutional coordinated arrangements with all the available resources and capacities planned for an immediate response to hazardous events has become more crucial. This plan will make it possible for the entire governmental mechanism to act in a proactive, systematic, and coordinated manner to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.

As we work together in a more comprehensive manner to coordinate our efforts in managing our response to hazardous events, we can together achieve success. The achievement of our goals to develop this plan and its effectiveness will be possible through cooperation of all ministries, departments, and agencies. The inclusion of the private sector, civil society, and nongovernmental organisations is crucial. I trust that they will provide additional administrative and technical as well as educational support to maximise resources, develop appropriate policies, and improve response and recovery.

The National Integrated Emergency Management Plan (NIEMP) outlines the general framework and the Seychelles approach to emergency preparedness and response and delivery of the Integrated Emergency Management System required by the Seychelles law. It is designed to guide emergency preparedness and response stakeholders from different organisations, helping them understand their own role and how it relates to the role of other individuals and organisations, and to serve the Seychelles citizens at their best during emergencies, regardless of their complexity, scope, location, or causes.

The plan describes how the central government response will be organised, building on the role of the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM). It also describes the sectoral and local district arrangements, which are the foundation of preparedness work, and for the initial response to any emergency in the Seychelles. The NIEMP is not a stand-alone document; it supports national legislation and policies, providing the foundation for their practical delivery, and setting out arrangements for ensuring an effective response to, and recovery from, any emergency occurring in the Seychelles, irrespective of cause or location.

Natural hazards know no boundaries. The priority goals of the NIEMP are to protect and save lives, assure coverage of people’s basic needs, reduce health impacts, safeguard property and the environment, promote swift restoration to normal life, and safeguard the economy and development gains.

I trust that the NIEMP will be effectively implemented by all.

Seychelles for All—All for Seychelles

Paul RJ Labaleine
Principal Secretary
Department of Risk and Disaster Management
List of acronyms

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<td>Attorney General</td>
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<td>ASP</td>
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<td>CEPS</td>
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<td>Standard Operating Procedure</td>
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<td>UC</td>
<td>Unified Command</td>
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All dollar amounts are U.S. dollars unless otherwise indicated.
1. Preface

In pursuance of the Government of Seychelles constitutional mandate to actively promote the welfare of the Seychellois people, the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy of the Republic of Seychelles, along with the Disaster Management Act 2014, gives effect to the global paradigm shift away from the approach of responding to disasters after they have occurred to a comprehensive disaster risk management.

The shift to comprehensive disaster risk management, which has taken place internationally, focuses on reducing vulnerabilities and exposure to different types of hazards, thus preventing the creation of new disaster risks and building resilience within the broad context of sustainable development. It also requires strengthening disaster preparedness, taking action in anticipation of events, and ensuring that capacities are in place for effective response and recovery at all levels.

This Seychelles National Integrated Emergency Management Plan (NIEMP) is not a stand-alone document. It supports National DRM Legislation and Policy of the Republic of Seychelles in providing the master plan for their practical delivery, setting out arrangements for disaster risk preparedness and response activities, irrespective of cause or location. It recognises the lead role of the Seychelles government in coordinating emergency preparedness and response and is designed to build upon, streamline, and strengthen existing institutional, governance, and coordination structures in the Seychelles.

The purpose of the NIEMP is to establish a shared framework for the effective coordination of preparedness and response operations, including both planning and training activities and the principles to be applied in responding to localized emergencies, and for responding to any disasters impacting the Seychelles, regardless of scale or causation.

The Plan describes how the government response will be organised, building on the role of the Department of Risk and Disaster (DRDM). It also describes the local- and sectoral-level arrangements, which are the foundation of disaster preparedness and response activities.

It is expected that ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) will use the principles and guidance set out in this plan to develop and implement their own single agency or hazard specific plans, design training for their staff.

The plan was developed through consultation with ministries, departments and agencies, UN agencies, World Bank, Red Cross Society of Seychelles, and other non-governmental organizations and humanitarian partners, incorporating a number of internationally recognised concepts, tools, and procedures in emergency response, such as incident command and management systems.

Its aim is to strengthen emergency preparedness for effective response at all levels and thus contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (Sendai Framework) Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.
2. Introduction

The NIEMP sets out a consistent framework to which all emergency preparedness and response efforts should adhere. The arrangements set out in this Plan will guide preparedness for disasters and an effective response to any disasters when they occur. The general concept is that government and organisational structures and mechanisms will continue to operate during an emergency, but will be enhanced through the robust coordination, communication, and decision-making structures set out in this Plan.

To ensure those arrangements and the responsibilities of individuals and organisations (including the private sector and civil society) are understood, the Plan sets out the roles and accountabilities for each agency and community involved in emergency response and recovery and describes the coordination and communications structure within which they will work.

This Plan covers a wide range of events, including those triggered by natural hazards such as cyclones, Tsunami, severe flooding, landslides, etc.; human-induced events such as transport accidents, terrorist incidents, and the impact of a disruption on essential services and critical infrastructure; and health and sanitary events like epidemics, pandemics, and animal-related diseases.

The NIEMP and the procedures outlined in this Plan represent a flexible and scalable approach to emergency management. All or part of this Plan may be implemented based on the needs of the situation. Events can, and do, take place that by their nature cannot be anticipated exactly. Response arrangements, therefore, need to be flexible in order to adapt to the circumstances at the time while applying good practice, including lessons from previous emergencies, and safeguarding the Seychelles constitution. In this sense, the NIEMP is also intended to be a living document that evolves and improves as the outcomes of ongoing planning efforts, exercises, and real-world events are incorporated.

2.1 National Priority Goals

The NIEMP aligns with the national goals for disaster risk management and brings along the necessary mechanisms required to help reduce the impact of disasters on the societal, economic, and environmental dimensions of the country. In this sense the priority goals that guide this Plan are:

i. Protect and save lives
ii. Assure coverage of people’s basic needs
iii. Reduce health impacts
iv. Safeguard property and the environment
v. Promote swift restoration of normal life
vi. Safeguard the economy and development gains
2.2 Objectives for the Plan

The NIEMP is aimed at achieving the following objectives:

i. A comprehensive and shared framework for a nationwide systematic approach for the effective coordination of disaster risk response and recovery, including the Incident Command System, Multiagency Coordination Systems, and Public Information;

ii. A defining of roles and responsibilities for emergency management functions, establishing of the conditions under which each of the different levels of government and private or external partners are mobilized, and description of the organisational concepts and structures used to coordinate actions of national and district stakeholders;

iii. A set of preparedness concepts and principles for all hazards, establishing common operating protocols, operational priorities, and general strategies for ensuring interoperability of communications and information management;

iv. Standardised resource management procedures that enable coordination among different jurisdictions or organisations;

v. Scalable, so it may be used for all incidents (from day-to-day to large scale); and

vi. A dynamic system that promotes the coordination of different institutional and sectoral response plans and maintenance of effective plans.

2.3 Guiding Principles for Preparedness and Response

The following guiding principles have been developed to capture the core characteristics of effective preparedness and response. It is proposed that they should be applied to the preparations for, and management of, any emergency. These are:

i. Preparedness: All individuals and organisations that might have to respond to emergencies should be properly prepared, including having clarity of roles and responsibilities, and specific and generic plans, and they should rehearse response arrangements periodically.

ii. Continuity: The response to emergencies should be grounded within organisations’ existing functions and their familiar ways of working, although inevitably, actions will need to be carried out at greater speed, on a larger scale, and in more testing circumstances during the response to any emergency incident.

iii. Subsidiarity: Decisions should be taken at the lowest appropriate level, with coordination at the highest necessary level. Local and district responders should be the key building blocks of response for an emergency of any scale, supported by specialists with additional resources and expertise from the national level as required.

iv. Direction: Clarity of purpose should be delivered through an awareness of the strategic aims and supporting objectives for the response. The operational structures set out within this plan at the national, command post, and field levels ensure these will be agreed and understood by all involved in managing the response to an incident in order to effectively prioritize and focus the response.

v. Integration: Effective coordination should be exercised between and within organisations and between local, district, regional, and national tiers of a response. This requires timely access to appropriate guidance, information, and support.

vi. Communication: Good two-way communications are critical to an effective response. Reliable information must be passed correctly and without delay between those who need to know, including the public.

vii. Cooperation: Positive engagement based on mutual trust and understanding will facilitate information sharing and deliver effective solutions to arising issues.

viii. Anticipation: In order to anticipate and manage the consequences of all kinds of emergencies, planners need to identify risks and develop an understanding of both the direct and indirect consequences in advance, where possible.
2.4 Conceptual Framework

Capacity
The combination of all the strengths, attributes, and resources available within an individual, community, organisation, or society which can be used to achieve established goals.

Emergency
Any occurrence, or imminent threat thereof, which results, or is likely to result, in substantial injury or harm to the population, or substantial damage to or loss of property. At one end of the spectrum, emergencies are usually small-scale, localized incidents which are resolved quickly using local resources. However, small-scale emergencies can escalate into disasters when there has been inadequate planning and a wasteful use of resources.

Disaster
A serious disruption in the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic, or environmental threats, losses, and impacts, whether arising from an accident, social disruption, nature or human activity, and whether developing suddenly or as a result of a long-term process.

Incident
An incident, as used in this plan, refers to any occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, which requires an emergency response to protect life or property. An incident may be an emergency or a disaster.

Incident levels
Incidents can be classified by level of impact (which includes economic, human, and environmental, and may include death, injuries, disease, and other negative effects on human physical, mental, and social well-being) and the type and number of issues that need to be addressed. This classification involves minor emergencies, limited and potential emergencies, and major disasters.

Disaster/emergency management
The organisation, design, planning, implementation, and evaluation of strategies, policies, and measures that promote and improve disaster preparedness, response, and recovery practices at different organisational and societal levels.

Disaster risk
The potential for adverse effects on lives; livelihoods; health status; economic, social, and cultural assets; services (including environmental); and infrastructure due to particular hazardous events occurring within some specified time period. Disaster risk derives from a combination of physical hazards and the vulnerabilities of exposed elements. Where disaster risk is materialised, severe interruption of the normal functioning of the affected society may be expected.

Disaster Risk Management (DRM)
Social processes for designing, implementing, and evaluating strategies, policies, and measures to improve the understanding of disaster risk, foster Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and transfer, and promote continuous improvement in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery practices, with the explicit purpose of increasing human security, well-being, quality of life, and sustainable development. DRM should be guided by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and considered and coordinated within relevant development plans, resource allocations, and programme activities.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
Denotes both a policy goal or objective, and the strategic and instrumental measures employed for anticipating future disaster risk; reducing existing exposure, hazard, or vulnerability; and improving resilience.

Early Warning System
The set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities, and organisations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and in sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss.

Exposure
The presence of people; livelihoods; environmental services and resources, infrastructure; and economic, social, and cultural assets, in places that could be adversely affected.

Hazard
The potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event that may cause loss of life, injury, or other
health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, and environmental resources.

**Impacts**

Effects on natural and/or human systems. In this plan, the term “impacts” is used to refer to the effects on natural and/or human systems of physical events, of disasters, and of climate change.

**Mitigation (of disaster risk and disaster)**

The lessening of the potential adverse impacts of physical hazards, (including those that are human induced), through actions that reduce hazard, exposure, and vulnerability.

**Preparedness**

The capacities developed by governments, response and recovery organisations, communities and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from the impacts of likely, imminent, or current disasters. Preparedness includes activities such as contingency planning; the stockpiling of equipment and supplies; the development of arrangements for coordination, evacuation, and public information; and associated training and field exercises. Preparedness is considered as a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response.

**Recovery**

The restoring or improving of livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural, and environmental assets, systems, and activities of a disaster-affected community or society, aligning with the principles of sustainable development and “build back better,” to avoid or reduce future disaster risk.

**Resilience**

The ability of a system and its component parts to anticipate, absorb, accommodate to, or recover from the effects of a hazardous event in a timely and efficient manner, including through ensuring the preservation, restoration, or improvement of its essential basic structures and functions.

**Response**

Actions taken directly before, during, or immediately after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety, and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected.

**Vulnerability**

The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. The vulnerability conditions are determined by physical, social, economic, and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets, or systems to the impacts of hazards.

### 2.5 Differentiating between Plans and Procedures

Although the distinction between plans and procedures is fluid, the basic criterion used for this Plan is to set out essential “need to know” and generic information applicable to all stakeholders in respect to emergency preparedness and response, such as key frameworks and structures, and establishing these as a matter of public record.

More detailed information and “how-to” instructions that apply only to individual stakeholder and responder groups are set out in supporting Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Key SOPs relating to establishment of national response and recovery arrangements are set out in SOPs developed by DRDM in support of this NIEMP, but more detailed and sector specific SOPs may need to be developed by individual MDAs to guide their own response. These need to be designed so that they are consistent with the principles and structures set out in this NEIMP to ensure a consistency of approach across all MDAs.

For example, the NEIMP recognises the fire service is the primary agency responsible for putting out fires and describes the generic structures and arrangements for the coordination of the multiagency response, including tasks such as evacuating people, providing shelter, etc. However, it does not detail what firefighting actions should be undertaken at the scene or what fire equipment is most appropriate: the NIEMP would defer to the fire department’s SOPs for that.

### 2.6 Plan Structure and Relationship with Other Plans

The generic frameworks set out in this Plan, including the multiagency structures at the national, regional, and district levels, form the baseline for all emergency preparedness and response activities, including production of local or sector specific plans, and for coordination of emergency response and recovery activities.
Whilst the overarching structures, responsibilities, and actions required for effective preparedness and response are set out in the NIEMP, it must be supplemented by more detailed hazard specific contingency plans that set out specific actions, SOPs, and checklists required for safe resolution of specific types of events, for example, sectoral and site-specific contingency plans produced specifically for airport or port operations. Localized plans for each district and specific action plans for each MDA will add further layers of detail listing much more detail in relation to local actions, priorities, and considerations.

Emergency response and recovery plans at all levels, and within all organisations, must be consistent with the NIEMP and follow the same principles of integrated emergency management, respecting the preparedness and response coordination structures set out. This will ensure effective coordination of effort from every MDA, and at every Level. The NIEMP should therefore be viewed as the master plan and cornerstone for all emergency preparedness and response activities, not a stand-alone document.
3. Country Context and Risk Profile

3.1 Country Context

The Seychelles archipelago comprises a total of 115 islands scattered over an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of approximately 1.4 million square kilometres, situated to the west of the Indian Ocean between 4 and 9 degrees south of the equator (Figure 1). The total land area is 455.3 square kilometres, converting it in a very land scarce country and amongst the smallest amount of arable land per person of any country.

The archipelago is divided into two distinct groups of islands: the granitic group, 43 islands in all, with mountainous peaks and narrow coastal lands, and the low-lying islands, all coralline and numbering 72. All the granitic islands are found within a radius of 50 kilometres from Mahé. With a land area of approximately 148 square kilometres, Mahé, the seat of the government, constitutes about one-third of the total land area. The two other islands of major importance as regards to size and population are Praslin and La Digue, 33.6 km and 48.0 km from Mahé, respectively. Of the coral islands, Aldabra is the largest and farthest, located 1,150 km to the southwest. In addition to these 155 islands as per the Constitution of Seychelles there are seven reclaimed islands: Ile Perseverance, Ile Aurore, Romainville, Eden Island, Eve, Ile du Port, and Ile Soleil.

Figure 1. Seychelles location and island distribution
Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue concentrated 99 percent of the country total population of around 96,762 in 2018. Mahé estimated population 84,707, Praslin 8,586 and La Digue 2,900, and outer islands 592, according with 2018, National Statistics Bureau.

Seychelles is divided into 26 administrative districts (Table 1) comprising all of the inner islands. Eight of the districts make up the capital of Seychelles and are referred to as Greater Victoria. Another 14 districts are considered the rural part of the main island of Mahé with two districts on Praslin and one on La Digue, which also include respective satellite islands. The rest of the Outer Islands (Îles Éloignées) are the last district recently created by the tourism ministry.

The Seychelles is relatively isolated from the nearest neighbors. The Republic of Seychelles capital, Victoria, lies 1,500 kilometres (932 m) east of mainland East Africa. Other nearby island countries and territories include Comoros, Mayotte (region of France), Madagascar, Réunion (region of France), and Mauritius to the south; as well as the Maldives and Chagos Archipelago. The islands are also geographically separated from one another, and travel between islands is by air or sea. Commercial aircraft and ferry are the most common methods of inter-island travel, with flight times between 20 minutes to 2 hours depending on origin and destination points.

The Seychelles is considered a high-income economy. From 1976 until 2015, nominal GDP output has increased nearly sevenfold and the purchasing power parity nearly sixteenfold. The country gross national income per capita was US$14,760 in 2015 (Atlas model), an order of magnitude higher than the regional average for Sub-Saharan Africa (US$1,637) and makes the Seychelles the only high-income economy in Sub-Saharan Africa, a classification it attained in 2015 by the World Bank.

### 3.2 Climate

Temperature and humidity remain generally high throughout the year, with a mean temperature of 26.9°C, and humidity of 80 percent. Temperatures on Mahé vary from 24 to 30°C (75 to 86°F). From May to October, the Southeast trades usually result in relatively cooler and drier conditions. Most of the islands lie outside the cyclone belt, so high winds are rare.

The period October to May is considered as the cyclone season for the Southwest Indian Ocean. The tropical cyclones are usually formed within the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), where the sea surface temperature is at least 28°C. Located just south of the equator, Mahé and other main granitic islands are not within the direct track of the tropical cyclones. At latitude zero, the Coriolis force is also zero, and this makes it physically impossible for the tropical cyclone to develop or cross the equator. However, all the islands of the archipelago are affected by the feeder bands of tropical cyclones in the region, and this can result in gale-force winds, flash floods, and severe thunderstorm activity. During the Southern summer, the wind is predominantly northwesterly. Originating from the high-pressure ridge of the Arabian Peninsula, it brings in warmer air with a very high moisture content, which is characteristic of the Seychelles weather at that time of the year, whether or not there is a tropical cyclone in the Southwest Indian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greater Victoria</th>
<th>Rural Mahé</th>
<th>Praslin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bel Air</td>
<td>Anse aux Pins</td>
<td>Baie Sainte Anne (Anse Volbert)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Rivière Anglaise (English River)</td>
<td>Anse Boileau</td>
<td>Grand’Anse Praslin (Grand Anse)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Mamelles</td>
<td>Anse Etoile</td>
<td>La Digue and remaining Inner Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mont Buxton</td>
<td>Au Cap</td>
<td>La Digue (Anse Réunion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mont Fleuri</td>
<td>Anse Royale</td>
<td>Outer Islands (Îles Éloignées)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perseverance</td>
<td>Baie Lazare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaisance</td>
<td>Beau Vallon</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roche Caiman</td>
<td>Bel Ombre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Louis</td>
<td>Cascade</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Glacis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grand’Anse Mahé</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pointe La Rue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Port Glaud</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Takamaka</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Ocean. The length of the dry season also varies significantly throughout the Seychelles archipelago. Southeast trade winds from May to October result in drier but cooler conditions to most of the Seychelles archipelago. However, in the northeast atolls of Bird Island and Denis Island, the mean annual rainfall is twice as high (1973 mm and 1730 mm, respectively) as in the Southwest atolls of Aldabra (984.5 mm) and Assumption (867 mm). Both spatial and temporal precipitation variability is affected by tropical cyclones.

The pattern of the mean annual rainfall over Mahé island shows a higher mean rainfall along the mountainous area, and a lower mean rainfall along the northern and southern tips of the island (rainfall ranges from 2,900 mm (114 in.) annually at Victoria to 3,600 mm (142 in.) on the mountain slopes). The rainfall over Mahé exhibits large variations on an all time scale, ranging from a day to intra-seasonal, inter-annual, decadal, and even in century scales. The year-to-year variations, otherwise known as inter-annual variability, have the most profound effect on the socio-economic activities. The variability is linked to that of the global circulation like the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and La Niña Southern Oscillation. Dry conditions are more common during the southern winter, and can result in severe water shortages affecting agriculture and all other sectors of the economy (Payet, 1998).

### 3.3 Main Hazards

Due to its geographical position and geology, the Seychelles is less exposed to major natural disasters than most of the neighbor countries such as Mauritius, La Réunion, Comoros, and Madagascar, or the countries on the African continent. Earthquakes are common in the Southwest Indian Ocean, but seismic sources are far from the Seychelles. Tropical cyclones are also common on the Southwest Indian Ocean, but the inner Islands and Mahé are too close to the Equator for most of the cyclones to make direct hits, therefore the probability of potentially damaging wind speeds in Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue is lower than in northern areas closer to the tropical cyclone belt. Nonetheless, the islands can still experience the associated wind, rain, and storm surge effects from tropical cyclones, which historically have generated subsequent flooding, landslides, and so forth.

For the purpose of this Plan the hazards that affect the country have been classified generically according to their origin into “natural” and “anthropic” hazards (Table 2).

(i) **Natural Hazards.** These have their origin in the internal or external dynamics of the earth, and can be of a geological type such as tsunami, landslides, etc.; or of hydrometeorological type, such as floods, overflows, storms, climatic phenomena, and spontaneous forest fires, among others.

(ii) **Anthropic Hazards.** These are caused directly by human beings or are related to technology and are characterised by the feasibility of occurrence of events intentionally or accidentally caused by man or by the failure in the operation of a system. In this Plan, the main anthropic hazards refer to fires, building collapses, spillage of dangerous chemicals, epidemics, environmental pollution, and deforestation, among others.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2. Summary of potential hazards in the Seychelles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geological hazards</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Tsunami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Landslides/mass movements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hydro-meteorological hazards</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Floods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Droughts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Cyclones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Coastal erosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Spontaneous forest fires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Lightning strikes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Waterspout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health-related hazards</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Epidemic prone diseases, conditions, or events which require immediate reporting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Diseases targeted for eradication or elimination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Other major diseases, events, or conditions of public health importance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Animal disease outbreak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Pest infestation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Man-made/technological hazards</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Structural fires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Road accidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Power failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Environmental degradation and pollution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Marine accidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Collapse of buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Oil spill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Civil disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Aircraft accidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Hazardous material (including radioactive material)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Industrial disasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Terrorism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 Vulnerability

More than 90 percent of the population and all economic activities are located on the narrow coastal plateau of Mahé Island. The Seychelles is economically, culturally, and environmentally vulnerable to the potential effects of climate change and associated extreme events. Vulnerability characteristics, such as concentration of development on narrow coastal zones, and non-resilient populations and ecosystems, make the Seychelles extremely sensitive to a hydrometeorological event and climate change-associated effects. The economic importance of the tourism sector also makes the islands dependent on their coastal landscape and natural capital. The impact of natural hazards and climate change on coastal livelihoods from sea level rise, wave action, storm and tidal surges, extreme sea-surface temperatures, and coastal flooding are a direct threat to livelihoods, infrastructure, and the economy in the Seychelles.

3.5 History of Disasters in the Seychelles

There is an absence of accessible systematic record before the independence in the national archives of the Seychelles, so it is only possible to report the most recent events that have affected the islands (Figure 2) based on an international data base such as CRED or DESINVENTAR and some country specific studies.

Storms, floods/rains, and landslides/rock falls, followed by tsunami and fires are reported as the most frequent events accorded with a DESINVENTAR data base, which includes 664 events between 1980 and 2014. A description of the main events in terms of impact (both human and economic) has been consolidated in Table 3.

3.6 Specific Scenarios

The Seychelles’ potential likelihood and impacts of hazards have been summarized in Table 4, all of which have a different potential of disrupting the community, causing casualties, and damaging or destroying public or private property.
Table 3. Major events in the Seychelles (chronological order)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event date/name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Impact descriptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 12 October 1862 "Great Avalasse"                     | Storm—generated an avalanche/mudflow | A "cyclone" apparently hit the Seychelles, with Mahé mainly affected. A huge landslide (mudflow mixing rocks, mud, vegetation and trees) buried Mahé. Localization of the mudflow: eastern slopes of the mountain over Port Victoria, police and prison yards, Victoria street, Royal Street, Anglican Church, Cluny Orphanage, old cemetery, Government House.  
  The affected area in town was covered with 3 to 4 feet (90–120 cm) of mud. The mud extended 400 feet (122 m) away from the port wharf. Boulders of 50 to 75 tons were displaced, and the largest could be less than 600 tons. Numerous landslides were observed all along the coasts.  
  A list of damages was found in colonial reports. The recorded damages were:  
  • All bridges in Victoria (11) destroyed, all roads severely damaged, 613 huts and house destroyed, 5 stone houses damaged, 116 wooden houses damaged, 30,000 coconut trees blew down (= crops), 22 boats sunk, a minimum of 70 victims. No victims on other islands and few damages on Praslin. |
| January 1975                                         | Storm                                | Mahé—2 persons injured                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 31st August–1st September 1985                      | Severe floods/landslides             | Severe floods on the 3 main islands, landslide at St. Louis, > 1 million SCR damages. In Mahé, 3 persons dead                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 17–23 May 1990—Cyclone Ikonjo                       | Storm                                | Cyclone Ikonjo hits Desroches island—USD 1,500,000 damages, 2 injured in Mahé (source: The Socio-economic Impact of Tropical Cyclone Ikonjo over the Seychelles, W. Agricole)                                                                                                                                 |
| January–April 1992                                   | Landslides                           | 3 dead in Praslin, 1 in Mahé                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 12–17 August 1997                                   | ENSO—floods, landslides             | The ENSO rainfall event—USD 1,700,000 damages, 5 persons dead in Mahé (source: CRED database)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 06–07 September 2002, tropical depression ‘01S’     | Storm                                | The storm produced a microburst that lasted for two hours across several islands, producing wind gusts up to 130 km/h (81 mph) on Praslin. Heavy rainfall affected Praslin, La Digue, and particularly Mahé, which reported 327.1 mm (12.88 in.) in a 24-hour period. Damage on Mahé was limited to landslides and some flooding. On Praslin, high winds damaged the roofs of over 50 houses and destroyed six homes, while the airport was also damaged. The winds damaged 50 power lines, causing an island-wide power outage. High winds also downed about 30,000 trees, which blocked roads but were quickly removed.  
  Due to widespread tree damage, Cousin Island—a nature preserve—was closed for about two weeks, accounting for about US$50,000 (SR 250,000 rupees) in damage. Nationwide, the storm left 375 families homeless and damaged crop fields, becoming the most damaging in the country in 50 years |
| December 2004: the great Indian Ocean tsunami       | Tsunami                              | There were 2 deaths in the entire Seychelles archipelago. It has been estimated that this event generated USD 30,000,000 damages (source: CRED database). The damage to coastal infrastructure on both eastern and western shores was most severe where natural coasts had been modified. Most damage was experienced at hotels and restaurants: these establishments being deliberately located in coastal embankments adjacent to beaches. Major structural damage occurred at one hotel (La Reserve) on Praslin. At this site, the damage was caused primarily by the draining of tsunami waters, which eroded and undermined foundations, causing distortion of the structures.  
  Damage to public works was greatest in Victoria, capital of the Republic of Seychelles. Dock structures were damaged in Port Victoria. Washouts and eventual collapse occurred on two bridges of the highway between Victoria and the airport, and coastal roads were damaged in a number of other places. The fisheries sector was the hardest hit as many fishing vessels and equipment were damaged or lost.  
  In some places, homes were flooded and some incurred minor structural damage. The overall damages seem to have been confined to the granitic islands. |
| Vista Do Mare Landslide—December 2004 and early January 2005 | Landslide                           | The Vista Do Mar Estate, north of Mahé Island, is being affected by a deep-seated landslide. Sustained heavy rainfall of about 170 mm/day over a two-day period increased the pore pressure enough to cause accelerated movement and damage to property. The slope is presently in an actively unstable stage and moves whenever triggering factors are active.  
  A total of 40 houses were affected, 10 severely damaged, 15 showing considerable damage, and another 15 with minor damages. |

continues
Table 4. Likelihood of occurrence and potential impacts of hazards in the Seychelles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard type</th>
<th>Unlikely</th>
<th>Likely</th>
<th>Highly likely</th>
<th>Estimated impact on public health and safety</th>
<th>Estimated impact on property and economy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limited</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earthquake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tsunami</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landslides</td>
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<tr>
<td>Droughts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyclones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coastal erosion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spontaneous forest fires</td>
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<tr>
<td>Floods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Droughts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Epidemics</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal disease outbreak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pest infestation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Structural fires</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road accidents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Power failure</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental degradation and pollution</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine accidents</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collapse of buildings</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil spill</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Adapted from the Disaster risk profile of the Republic of Seychelles (UNDP, 2008a), EMDAT Database, DESINVENTAR Data Base, PDNA 2013, PDNA 2016.
Table 4. Likelihood of occurrence and potential impacts of hazards in the Seychelles (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard type</th>
<th>Likelihood of occurrence</th>
<th>Estimated impact on public health and safety</th>
<th>Estimated impact on property and economy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unlikely</td>
<td>Likely</td>
<td>Highly likely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil disorder</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft accidents</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous material</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial disasters</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorism</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.6.1 Tsunamis

There have been no recorded instances of large tsunamis resulting from earthquakes in the Southwest Indian Ocean (SWIO) region. This is because tsunamis are usually the result of high-magnitude subduction zone earthquakes, and the SWIO region does not experience many high-magnitude earthquakes or contain any major subduction zones. However, the entire region is at risk of tsunamis generated by subduction zones elsewhere in the Indian Ocean, which are capable of traveling across the ocean (teletsunamis give the opportunity to generate alerts with several hours difference between the occurrence of the earthquake event and the arrival of the waves). The main sources are the earthquakes produced in the plate boundaries from (a) Sunda arc—Sumatra subduction zone, (b) Makran subduction zone, (c) Carlsberg transform fault, and submarine mass movements (d) on the northern flank of the Reunion Piton de la Fournaise, and (e) Comoros. Source: (USGS).

The December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami is the bigger historical tsunami in the history of the Seychelles and the Indian Ocean countries. Other officially identified tsunamis in the Seychelles are the one generated by the 27th August 1883 Krakatoa eruption in Java and the one generated in 2007 by the September 12 Sumatra earthquake. National archives for the 1883 event reported waves of 2.5 feet (76 cm) above usual high spring tides, receding in 15 minutes and then returning. Unusual waves continued for more than one day, only varying in time. No damages were caused by this event. For the 2007 event, wave disturbances were observed on the tide gauge located at the Seychelles International Airport. There were reports of unusual oscillations in the sea level, particularly along the drainage-river water systems.

Indian Ocean 2004 characteristics, runup

On Sunday, 26th December 2004, an earthquake measuring 9.2 on the Richter Scale, one of the largest ever in this region, caused a rupture along a fault about 1,000 km long, which generated a vertical displacement of about 10 m at around 00:59 GMT (04:59 LT). It is the displacement of the sea-floor of 0.25 million square kilometres of the Indian plate/Burma micro plate subduction zone (McCloskey et al., 2005 in UNDP, 2008a) that generated a huge tsunami across the Indian Ocean. Waves as high as 10 m hit the island of Phuket at 05:30. By 08:00 (LT), Sri Lanka and the south coast of India were badly hit by no less than 5 m waves. High waves, about 4 m, reached the Maldives by 10:30 LT completely submerging the capital of Mahe. Various tsunami travel time simulations show that the travel time from the epicentre in Sumatra to the main islands of the Seychelles at about six hours (Figure 3).

The UNESCO Indian Ocean Tsunami Expedition assessment (Jackson et al., 2005) details the run-up (figure 3) and damage assessment. It shows that the run-up and damage were locally as severe, along shores of Mahé and Praslin facing away from the source of the tsunami. The highest flood levels on Mahé ranged from ~ 1.6 m to more than 4.4 m above mean sea level. On Praslin they ranged from ~1.8 m to 3.6 m. Some impacts are described in Table 3, and for specific scenario planning more details can be found in the Seychelles Country Risk Profile (UNDP, 2008a) and the Post tsunami assessment (UNEP, 2005).

3.6.2 Tropical cyclones

The location of the Seychelles in the equatorial regions of the Indian Ocean area is a determinant factor that signifies that the Seychelles is mainly indirectly affected by
tropical cyclones via the intensification of the intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) and spiral rain bands associated with cyclones passing south of the islands. Records from 1972 to 2001 show that the islands are outside the major storm routes (JICA 2014) but the Seychelles has its fair share of cyclonic impacts through intense rain equivalent to rain rates in the inner core of tropical cyclone through the spiral rain band. Chang-Seng (2007) showed that tropical cyclone by-track characterises the preceding rainfall in the Seychelles at both event and seasonal time scales. Furthermore, it was shown that tropical cyclone (TC) generated swells and storm surges have a significant wider basin impact, posing a risk to maritime users within the region.2

Recent TC impacts on Praslin and Providence in 2002 and 2006, respectively, portrays the TC hazard is increasing; however, there were similar TC tracks in the past though the impacts were not well documented (Chang-Seng, 2007). Currently, there are simply no firm evidences to draw conclusions on TC spatial changes. Tropical cyclones can be thought of as being steered by the surrounding environmental flow. Short-term fluctuations in the track are common for intense cyclones. TC track changes toward the lower latitude have been established to be driven by the presence of a strong persistent anticyclone in the central SWIO causing mid-level easterlies in a core region between 10°S and 20°S, 35–65°E (UNDP, 2008).

Historically, the tropical cyclones have been the most recurrent events and the ones that have generated the

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2 UNDP. United Nations Development Programme. 2008a. Disaster risk profile of the Republic of Seychelles
bigger impacts. Cyclones in 1953 and 2006 caused great damage. Several tropical cyclones whose eyes had passed close to Victoria have had significant effects. As indicated in section 3.7, the devastation of tropical cyclonic Bondo (2004) produced coastal flooding and heavy rains in Mahé. Modelling for the region of tropical Cyclone Bondo showed a maximum storm surge of 0.84 metres (Alvarez Cruz et al. 2011), which adds to the regular variations in sea level from tides and can occur atop wave driven flooding. In the worst-case scenario, buildings or roads below 2.5 metres above the present mean sea level could be inundated. In 2016, tropical Cyclone Fantala damaged infrastructure in the Farquhar Atoll, the archipelago’s outer island, with winds of 330 to 345 kilometres per hour. It was reported that all the infrastructure on the islands suffered substantial damage except for cyclone-proof facilities (UNDP, 2008).

Although the probability of potentially damaging wind speeds in Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue is lower than in northern areas closer to the tropical cyclone belt (about a 20 percent chance of landfall in the next 10 years, according to estimates from Thinkhazard), the impact generated by the cyclone-induced heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding and landslides, as well as through coastal flooding, have demonstrated the relevance of these type of events in the hazard scenarios of the Seychelles. In the absence of more concrete analyses, a worst-case scenario can be assumed when a tropical cyclone or depression passes close to the Seychelles and causes extremely high tides and flooding simultaneously.

3.6.3 Coastal and inland flooding

As described in the Seychelles Coastal Management Plan (World Bank and Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Seychelles, 2019), coastal flooding often occurs during extreme water-level events that result from the simultaneous and combined contributions of different factors, such as high astronomical tides, storm surges, large waves, and mean sea level anomalies. Astronomical tides are defined as sea level variations produced by the gravitational interactions of the earth, moon, and sun. Storm surges result from the effect of atmospheric low pressure and wind stress over the sea surface, which are typically associated with tropical cyclones.
Table 5. Summary of coastal flooding heights by return period for the three main islands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Return period</th>
<th>Mahé</th>
<th>Praslin</th>
<th>La Digue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>3.47–4.83</td>
<td>2.82–499</td>
<td>2.80–4.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>3.57–4.96</td>
<td>2.89–5.13</td>
<td>2.87–4.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.66–5.07</td>
<td>2.96–5.27</td>
<td>2.93–4.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The majority of the coastal sectors in Mahé are susceptible to extreme coastal flooding. The most highly exposed coastal areas are English River, St Louis, Bel Air, Cascade, and Pointe La Rue. Regions between Providence and the airport are also affected. Boileau and the inland coast beaches Beau Vallon, Port Launay Beach, and Grand Anse Au Cap, Anse Royale, Takamaka, and Anse can also experience moderate flooding. The North East Point experiences more frequent floods.

Praslin is very sensitive to coastal flooding throughout all its extension. The south coast, mainly Grand Anse and Anse Kerlan, is more susceptible to greater flooding. On the north coast, Côte d’Or is one of the sections most exposed to flooding. Anse Possession, Anse Boudin, and Anse Lazio present lesser risks of flooding. In 2004, the tsunami caused intense coastal flooding along the north coast of Praslin, at Côte d’Or, Anse Volbert, Anse Petit Coeure, and Anse Possession.

The west coast is very low lying and prone to flooding. Coastal flooding is more frequent between Anse Grave and Anse Source d’Argent.

Source: Adapted from JICA, 2014.

Note: Range of values gives mean to maximum values of flood height.

Wave-driven flooding results from the propagation effects of offshore waves and depends on the offshore conditions, but also on local coastal features, such as local bathymetry. Wave run-up is the maximum vertical height above the still water elevation (tides and surges) to which the water rises on the beach or structure, and it depends on the local water level, the incident wave conditions, and the nature of the beach or structures (such as reefs, beach, and coastal profile). The contribution of these factors, usually described as total water level, can be used to infer flooding inland. Other factors that affect flooding are not associated with a meteorological event such as a tsunami.

There is currently no comprehensive database of historic flooding incidents. The preliminary assessment of the study of the impact of sea level rise (Alvarez Cruz et al. 2011) provides an expert-based description of flooding events occurring in the years leading up to 2011 when the study was conducted. Sea level rise and future changes in storms are the two major elements of climate change that will increase the levels and frequency of coastal hazards and vulnerability on the coastal zone in the Seychelles. The sea level has been monitored since 1993 at Pointe La Rue, Mahé. The analysis of 18 years of data showed a sea level rise rate of 5.6–6.6 millimetres per year between 1993 and 2010. If this rate remains constant over the course of the century, the sea level will rise 0.3 metres by 2050 and 0.6 metres by 2100 over the levels of 2010. However, the regional sea level in the southwest Indian Ocean is expected to rise between 0.4 and 0.6 metres from 2070 to 2100 as compared with the period from 1960 to 1990.

3.6.4 Landslides

Ground movements and landslides have always been a major concern in the Seychelles since the 1862 “Avalasse” event. Except for this major event, the morphology of the island clearly indicates that huge mass movements have occurred in recent Pleistocene or actual time. Oral reports of mass movements exist for the 20th century, but no details are available since no impact was recorded. The intense weathering, erosion of soils, and rapid growth of vegetation rapidly erase the clues and traces of past landslide.

The inner Islands of the Seychelles are frequently affected by small ground movements, landslides, and rockfalls. Mahé, with the steepest slopes and highest peak of all islands, is especially concerned by several types of phenomenon. Very few other events have been reported on the other islands, probably because none of them had seriously affected human activities. However, there are traces of ancient mass movements on other highlands with steep slopes, such as Silhouette.
4. Institutional Framework

4.1 Overview of Disaster Management Legislation in the Republic of Seychelles

The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy of the Republic of Seychelles, and the Disaster Management Act of 2014, set the baseline structure for disaster risk reduction and response in the Seychelles. This includes detailed roles and responsibilities for various elements of the emergency preparedness and response (EP&R) structure.

The government recognises its responsibility for protecting communities and the environment and has established the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRMD), led by a principal secretary, to act as the focal point and primary national body for disaster risk reduction and emergency management.

Key statutory responsibilities for DRDM are to:

1. Set out specific requirements and uniform procedures on matters which can be standardised nationally, including the declaration of an emergency, and allocation of functions and responsibilities between the agencies;
2. Command and control operations and interagency coordination arrangements and make the best use of available resources for response at local regional, national, and international levels;
3. Set out responsibility to ensure that interagency coordination arrangements are developed at all levels for effective coordination of individual response efforts to emergencies;
4. Provide common terminology to facilitate coordinated and safe working conditions;
5. Identify and prioritize risks to ensure that existing services are prepared and equipped to deal with realistic potential emergencies;
6. Ensure preparedness by the principal response agencies to ensure prompt and effective coordinated response;
7. Activate response mechanisms for effective, timely search and rescue operations to save lives and minimize damage to property in times of crises and to ensure the protection and care of the public at times of vulnerability;
8. Ensure that measures are in place to restore livelihoods and other life support;
9. Coordinate response in the event of a threat of the disaster;
10. Organize and execute various drills, and functional and full-scale exercises annually; and
11. Advise, assist, and coordinate the activities of the government institutions, nongovernmental organisations, private sector entities, and communities.

Further supporting structures and committees are set out in legislation, including a National Disaster Risk Management Committee and a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.
4.2 Integrated Emergency Management System

The Republic of Seychelles is committed to adoption of an Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS), mandating its use in the 2014 Disaster Management Act and empowering DRDM to put in place appropriate disaster preparedness and response structures, including arrangements for effective disaster command, control, and coordination structures.

IEMS introduces a common framework within which MDAs at all levels of government, nongovernmental organisations, and the private sector can:

- Work seamlessly to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity; and
- Reduce the loss of life, damage to property, and harm to the environment.

To ensure effective preparedness for any disaster, IEMS requires robust structures, systems, and protocols for coordination of risk assessment, planning, and training in advance of any emergency, and for management of multiagency and multi-sectoral resources to deal with any arising emergency.

This is achieved through the creation of multiagency liaison and coordination platforms for all aspects of preparedness and a coordinated incident command system that ensures that multiagency partners can work together effectively in response to, and recovery from, any event that occurs. These platforms ensure that all available resources across government and the wider civil society, including NGO’s, businesses, and citizens, can be harnessed effectively.

The key benefit of adopting a common approach to emergency preparedness and response across the Seychelles is that it delivers a flexible but standardised system for any emergency regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, and system components can also be utilized to develop plans, processes, procedures, agreements, and roles for all types of incidents. Additionally, IEMS, including a robust Incident Command System (ICS), provides an organised set of standardised operational structures, which is critical in allowing disparate organisations and agencies to work together in a predictable, coordinated manner.

IEMS should ensure that key agencies can:

- Combine and act as a single authoritative focus where necessary;
- Consult, agree, and decide on key issues; and
- Issue instructions, policies, and guidance to which all agencies will conform.

4.3 Resilience Platforms

Many countries have found that emergency preparedness and response frameworks work best when they are based around the day-to-day structures and ways of working already established at the national, regional, and district levels for governance and the day to day service delivery of key ministries, departments, and agencies. This also helps when bringing stakeholders together from multiple agencies and sectors at appropriate levels as they will have a better understanding of their counterparts’ roles and responsibilities. Bringing those multiagency partners together to plan emergency preparedness and response activities will both enhance the quality of resulting plans and ensure all partners can work together cohesively during any emergency response and recovery efforts.
No matter how well prepared, emergency response and recovery operations present a risk of confusion and misunderstanding between stakeholders. Having response and recovery structures that mirror, so far as is possible, the same simple and robust coordination structures used for planning and training activities, can minimize this risk. Partners that have previously worked together to produce joint plans and risk assessments, and who have regularly trained together, provide the ideal base structure for an effective disaster response.

The NIEMP therefore does not propose entirely unique structural arrangements for planning, training, and exercising, rather it seeks to strengthen and build on existing structures in the Seychelles, using them to form the backbone of a cohesive emergency preparedness and response structure in a way that is consistent with current law and the National Disaster Risk Management Policy.

To ensure effective coordination between national and locally based MDAs, seven multiagency and multi-sectoral Regional Resilience Platforms (RRPs) are proposed to support interagency coordination on emergency preparedness and response work. They will receive guidance and support from a National Resilience Platform, led by DRDM, and can use the structures from national to local to share best practice and lessons learned. National and Regional Resilience Platforms are established in accordance with Section 6 of 2014 Disaster Management Act.

As advisory structures established to facilitate multiagency cooperation and coordination, the frequency of National and Regional Platform meetings will be determined by the PS of DRDM. It is anticipated that both will meet quarterly, with regional platform meetings preceding the national meeting, so that any issues may be escalated from district or regional levels to the national level for consideration and determination as necessary.

The purpose of the regional layer is to ensure best use of specialist personnel and resources in the planning and training process, providing guidance and specialist support to the sectoral and district levels, and providing opportunities for enhanced partnership working and cooperation across sectors and jurisdictions to avoid duplication of effort.

Regional Resilience Platforms (Figure 5) help to support and coordinate sectoral and district level disaster preparedness activities and provide a link between the national and district levels. Standing membership of the National and Regional Resilience Platforms generally includes organisations identified by DRDM as Category 1 or 2 responders. These categories are applied consistently throughout the NIEMP, both for preparedness and response functions.

Figure 5. Overview of National Resilience Platform structure
list of organisations involved in emergency preparedness and response, the key functions and tasks they are responsible for as lead or supporting agency, and their category, is set out in Appendix 1, Responsible Matrix by Functional Task.

4.3.1 Category 1 responders

Organisations in Category 1 are at the core of the response to most emergencies impacting the Seychelles. Category 1 responders are subject to a comprehensive set of preparedness and response duties. They will be required to:

- Cooperate with other local responders to enhance coordination and efficiency
- Assess the risk of emergencies occurring and use this to inform contingency planning
- Put in place emergency plans
- Put in place business continuity management arrangements
- Put in place arrangements to make information available to the public about civil protection matters and maintain arrangements to warn, inform, and advise the public in the event of an emergency
- Share information with other local responders to enhance coordination
- Provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations about business continuity management (local government only)

Category 1 responder organisations have been identified through the evaluation of functional tasks and are illustrated in Appendix 1.

i. Department of Risk and Disaster Management
ii. Finance Department
iii. Environment Department
iv. Local Government Department
v. Red Cross Society of Seychelles
vi. Public Health Authority
vii. Health Care Agency
viii. Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency
ix. Seychelles Police Force
x. Seychelles Peoples Defence Force
xi. Public Utilities Corporation

4.3.2 Category 2 responders

Category 2 organisations are 'cooperating bodies'. They are less likely to be involved in the heart of planning work but will be heavily involved in incidents that affect their own sector.

Category 2 responders have a vital role and should undertake their own internal planning and preparedness activities as is required of Category 1 responders. However, Category 2 responders have a lesser set of planning and public communication duties, their key tasks being:

- To cooperate with other Category 1 and 2 responders in all aspects of emergency preparedness and response
- To share relevant information with other Category 1 and 2 responders, both in planning and training activities managed through the Regional and National Platform structure, and through the Seychelles Incident Command Structure during an emergency response that involves the Category 2 organisation.

Category 2 responder organisations have been identified through the evaluation of functional tasks and are illustrated in Appendix 1.

i. Ministry of Habitat, Infrastructure and Land Transport
ii. Family Affairs Department
iii. Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change—Department of Environment
iv. Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change—Climate Change and Energy Department
v. Landscape and Waste Management Agency
vi. Department of Information and Communication Technology
vii. Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development
viii. National Biosecurity Agency
ix. Nongovernmental organisations
x. National Integrated Emergency Management Plan
xi. Public Utilities Corporation
xii. Seychelles Agricultural Agency
xiii. Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority
xiv. Seychelles Interfaith Council
xv. Seychelles Land Transport Agency
xvi. Seychelles Meteorological Authority
4.3.3 District planning arrangements

At the district level, it is not anticipated that the full multiagency structures set out above will be replicated in full. However, multiagency meetings and coordination at a district level should include key Category 1 and 2 representatives as required. Regular planning, training, and coordination meetings at a district level should include the following:

- DA Team
- Category 1 and 2 representation where those MDAs are district based
- Emergency Brigade Team Leader
- Representatives from:
  - Schools
  - Zone leaders
  - Business organisations

The focus of district planning and the multi-stakeholder process, and for district plans, is to set out the district level arrangements for emergency response and recovery, linking these with the regional and national level and the various MDAs and sectors involved. The objectives are to ensure that coordination and information sharing at the local level is effective and links directly to MDAs, local businesses, and the community.
5. Concept of Operations

5.1 Levels of Emergency

The structure of emergency management should be organised based on scale and complexity. Local agencies are always the first responders and the ones who carry the burden of the emergency management. The NIEMP therefore describes the arrangements used to respond to any disaster event impacting the Seychelles, from routine minor emergencies generally resolved by first responders as part of their day to day activities, through to national disasters that will impact all of government and civil society. In order to structure the incident command and management arrangements necessary to effectively respond to this wide range of disasters, it is useful to establish a common understanding of emergency levels.

The NIEMP sets out four levels of emergency that describe both the general scale and consequences of an event, and four functional incident management levels that will be established to deal with any event arising (Figure 6). Although inextricably linked, both of those elements are different, and can be defined as follows:

**Level of Emergency:** A numeric 1–4 code reflecting the scale of emergency based on its scale and consequences (or potential consequences)

**Level of Incident Command:** A colour code reflecting four functional command levels used in the Seychelles emergency response.

In determining the appropriate level of a specific emergency, an evaluation must be made that considers both the scale and consequences of the incident. That evaluation will be made by the senior manager/officer in the field responding to an emergency that has already occurred, or by the PS of DRDM if reacting to the warning of an impending event.

The proposed system is designed to offer maximum flexibility by avoiding fixed definitions for incident level and command functions. This enables commanders to use professional judgement based on the precise circumstances of each emergency.

1. Most emergencies are localised events, with relatively low consequences, and are resolved by local responders at the scene of the emergency. These are defined as Level 1 emergencies.
2. More complex and larger scale events impacting large parts of a district, with more serious consequences, are defined as Level 2 emergencies.
3. Events that have a significant impact across two or more districts, or have significant national consequences, are defined as Level 3 events.
4. Events that impact the entire country, or have the most significant consequences, are defined as Level 4 events.
5.2 Incident Command System

The Seychelles Incident Command System sets out the structures, definitions, and ways of working that will be used to guide the emergency response and recovery activities of all responders. This includes the structures that will be established at the national and local levels to enable responders from multiple MDAs to work together effectively to resolve an emergency. The system is flexible, enabling the response to be framed around the level of emergency. It also recognises that the response phase of any incident comprises two separate, but closely related and often overlapping, challenges: crisis management and consequence (or impact) management. These are both designed to control and minimize the immediate challenges arising from an incident.

1. Crisis management involves the phase of the response that attempts to prevent or avert an imminent emergency, along with the protective or other measures put in place to mitigate its effects, prevent further damage or disruption, and secure the scene. It also includes actions taken to address the immediate effects of an incident and may include, for example, fighting fires, search and rescue, providing public health advice, evacuating those at risk, and disseminating public information.

The duration of the crisis management phase can vary from a few hours or a few days in the case of an accident or explosion, or a few weeks or even months following an outbreak of a human or animal disease, until the situation is brought under control.

2. Consequence management usually takes place in parallel to crisis management and is concerned with steps taken to prevent the impact of an incident escalating. It includes managing wider consequences and services such as restoring transport networks or electricity supplies, managing community relationships, and providing shelter to displaced persons. Consequence management is also known as ‘Impact Management’.

The Seychelles Incident Management System also recognises that individual incident managers at the various functional levels of incident command will each have a different role and level of delegated authority given to them by their own organisation. The limits of those delegations mean that they undertake slightly different tasks. When responders at the same functional level come together to coordinate their activities at an Incident Command Post or the National Emergency Operations Centre, their role is different again.

To address these important differences, it is important to
recognise and understand the concepts of command, control, and coordination. The meanings of these three terms are different and they are as follows:

- **Command** is the exercise of vested authority that is associated with a role or rank within an organisation to give direction to personnel in order to achieve defined objectives. *(For example, the Team Leader of a District Emergency Brigade giving instructions to a Team Member)*

- **Control** is the application of authority, combined with the capability to commit and manage resources in order to achieve defined objectives. Some organisations define command and control together, but the key element of control is the combination of authority with the means to ensure command intent is communicated and results monitored.

  For example, a junior officer present “on scene” from a responder organisation may command the personnel from their organisation. However, control of regional or national resources that may be used to reinforce on-scene operations, or the authority to authorize payments may sit with a more senior manager operating remotely from the incident, for example, at an Emergency Operational Control. *(For example, a DA may exercise “command” by giving instructions to the Emergency Brigade Team leader, and also exercise “control” by committing other local government resources at their immediate disposal.)*

- **Coordination** is the integration of multiagency efforts and available capabilities, which may be interdependent, in order to achieve defined objectives. The coordination function will be exercised through unified command functions such as the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) and requires that command of individual organisations’ personnel and assets is appropriately exercised in pursuit of the defined objectives. *(For example, a Local government PS attending the NEOC on behalf of over local governments will retain responsibility for the direction of local government staff and resources, but will coordinate and agree their activities with all other “Gold level” functional commanders attending NEOC as part of an overall incident management plan.)*

Seychelles has implemented a Unified Command (UC) structure at a national level for many years. The NIEMP and Seychelles Incident Command System extend this UC system to include both the NEOC and Incident Command Posts.

UC provides a system whereby all relevant government and non-government organisations can come together to coordinate their activities in order to resolve an emergency, while at the same time allowing each to carry out their own legal and functional responsibilities. The UC structure links the organisations responding to the incident at various functional levels of command and provides a structured forum for these entities to make consensual decisions.

For example, the UC established at NEOC allows the various government and non-government responders to blend together to create an integrated management team. Members of the NEOC work together to develop a common set of incident objectives and strategies, share information, maximize the use of available resources, and enhance the efficiency of the individual response organisations.

**A Unified Command System delivers the following benefits:**

- A single set of strategic objectives is developed for the entire incident, set by the senior decision makers from each agency or ministry involved
- A collective approach at NEOC and the Command Post is used to develop an incident action plan that is then enacted at the Silver and Bronze levels
- Information flow and coordination is improved among all government and non-government entities involved in the incident
- All government and non-government agencies with responsibility for incident response and recovery have an understanding of joint priorities and restrictions
- No ministry, agency, or sector legal authorities or responsibilities will be compromised or neglected
- Allows for collective approval of operations, logistics, planning, and finance activities
- Allows for shared facilities and makes best use of specialist command support teams, reducing training and response costs, maximizing efficiency, and minimizing communication breakdowns

**5.2.1 Functional levels of incident command**

When an emergency occurs, those responsible for managing the response and recovery effort will face an array of competing demands and pressures. These will vary according to the event or situation that caused the emergency, the speed of its onset, the geographical area affected, any concurrent or interdependent events, and many other factors.
The information available during the early stages of an incident will often be incomplete, inaccurate, or ambiguous, and perceptions of the situation may differ within and between organisations. The response and recovery effort may involve many organisations, potentially from across the public, private, and voluntary sectors, and each will have its own responsibilities, capabilities, and priorities that require coordination. The adoption of a common Incident Command System (ICS) will minimize the likelihood of misunderstanding and assist all agencies in delivery of an effective response.

Multiagency representatives from various ministries, agencies, or departments must come together to coordinate responses and to ensure effective communication and collaboration for all available resources to be harnessed effectively. Each of those responding MDAs will have their own internal management structures and “rank systems.” Historically, a weakness in disaster and emergency response structures involving multiple agencies has been the confusion caused by different hierarchies both between and within organisations. During a fast-moving emergency, a rigid “top down” response structure, with confusion about who is authorized to do what, increases potential for misunderstanding and slows down decision making.

To address this threat, the Seychelles has adopted an emergency response structure based on a “Functional Command” concept. This presents a flexible and robust structure capable of responding to fast moving and challenging disasters by acknowledging that incident management decisions are generally taken and implemented at one of four functional levels of decision making. These have been color coded both for easy reference and to avoid any confusion during emergencies between the function role within the Seychelles Incident Command System to which an individual is appointed and their rank or job title within the organisation they are representing.

- **Platinum**: Policy direction provided by National Government
- **Gold**: Direction of National Strategy through a Unified Command at the National Emergency Operations Centre.
- **Silver**: Direction of Tactics and Field Operations through a Unified Command at an Incident Command Post
- **Bronze**: First line management and supervision of personnel undertaking Field Operations

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**Figure 7. Functional incident command hierarchy**

![Diagram of Functional Incident Command Hierarchy](image_url)
5.2.2 Platinum Level – National Policy Direction

Some of the most significant major emergencies will involve cross government or even international considerations or may have significant long term or financial implications for the entire nation. In these circumstances, Ministers at the Platinum Level will need to be consulted to make key national policy decisions on behalf of government.

Whenever the Gold Command and NEOC is established, the DRDM Principal Secretary will inform Ministers at the Platinum Level. It will be a matter for Ministers, in consultation with the President, to decide whether to formally convene a Platinum working group and call in senior policy or technical advisors as necessary. The key factor in a decision is the requirement to ensure appropriate focus is given to government policy or diplomatic relations and ensuring that all appropriate government resources can be deployed and coordinated effectively.

In the most serious incidents, where a State of Emergency is declared, Platinum will automatically be established to provide strategic leadership and take responsibility for key policy issues, such as requests for international assistance.

It is a matter for Government to establish appropriate ways of working, but it is assumed that these will follow existing governance and decision-making structures consistent with the Constitution and the circumstances arising.

5.2.3 Gold Level – National Coordination

Level 3 emergencies are declared where an event or situation has: an especially significant impact; substantial resource implications; involves a large number of organizations with the activation of multiple Silver Groups; or lasts for an extended duration, it will be necessary to convene Gold level Commanders at the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC).

The purpose of the Gold level of functional command is to consider the emergency in its wider national context; determine longer-term and wider impacts and risks with strategic implications; define and communicate the overarching strategy and objectives for the emergency response; establish the response and recovery framework, policy and parameters for lower level tiers; and monitor the context, risks, impacts and progress towards defined objectives.

It is important not to confuse the Gold Command function with the NEOC as the two things are not the same;

1. Gold Command – A level of function incident management in the Seychelles ICS. Executive Managers from Multiple agencies come together to undertake the Gold Command function and deliver their responsibilities by establishing a Unified Command at the National Emergency Operations Centre. (NEOC)

2. NEOC – is the facility established to support a Unified Command at the Gold level. In addition to physical infrastructure, such as communications and other facilities, NEOC includes a comprehensive Command Staff and General Staff structure to assist in the effective management of any emergency.

Lessons identified from many emergencies, including floods and landslides, show that establishing technical facilities and support staff at the NEOC at an early stage on a precautionary basis can be extremely helpful, even if the Gold level of functional command is not fully established immediately. Precautionary NEOC’s need not require Gold Commanders to physically convene at the outset but can instead use other appropriate means to share and assess information on the extent of the emergency so that the full structure can be ready activated if a situation suddenly worsens.

The purpose of the Gold Level is to take overall responsibility for the Multi-Agency management of emergency response and recovery, and to establish the policy and strategic framework within which lower tier command and coordinating groups will work. Gold Level Commanders will:

- Build and maintain a common understanding of the situation, risk and challenges, using all available means, including reports from the Silver Level.
- Determine and promulgate a clear strategic aim and objectives and review them regularly;
- Establish a policy framework for the overall management of the event or situation;
- Prioritize the requirements of the Silver Level and allocate personnel and resources accordingly;
- Formulate and implement media-handling and public communication plans, potentially delegating this to one ministry or responding agency; and
- Direct planning and operations beyond the immediate response in order to facilitate the recovery process.
As a Multi-Agency Unified Command, Gold has collective responsibility for decision-making and implementation of national policy. To achieve this Gold relies on a process of discussion and consensus to reach decisions at a strategic level and to ensure that the agreed strategic aim and objectives are implemented at the Silver and Bronze Levels. The PS of DRDM however, has the authority to issue command or executive orders to any responding agency where it is found necessary to ensure compliance and continuity in the execution of the plan. These discussions, including both decisions taken and not taken or deferred, must be logged for future scrutiny.

5.2.4 Silver Level – Incident Scene Coordination

The purpose of the Silver tactical level of command is to establish a Multi-Agency Command Post and Unified Command system to ensure that the actions taken by the Bronze operational level are coordinated, coherent and integrated in order to achieve maximum effectiveness and efficiency. Silver Commanders are responsible coordinating with their multi-agency colleagues at the Silver level and determining the tactics that Bronze will follow. They are then responsible for managing their own agencies response to ensure those plans are enacted.

During a wide area event, such as a Cyclone, there may be multiple Bronze Commanders from each agency reporting up to each Silver. In these instances, Silver also has responsibility for prioritization and resource allocation at the local / on scene Level. Having come to a consensus on priority actions and objectives through the Unified Command process, all Silver Commanders will issue consistent orders, direction and guidance to their respective Bronze Commanders.

A decision to activate a Level 2 event and Silver Command Post will generally be taken by the senior officer / manager present from the Lead Government Department with primary responsibility for that incident type, in consultation with the senior officers / managers of any other agencies forming the response. The nature of the Command Post will generally be dictated by the nature and scale of the emergency and the resources available. For example, a Silver Command Post where the Silver Commanders can meet, discuss and agree tactics, may be established at the incident scene for incidents with a limited geographical spread, such as a building fire.

Equally, for incidents that involve a wider range of responders, involve complex operations over an extended time period, or involve multiple incident scenes, such as flooding impacting a number or roads and properties across a District, the Silver Command Post should be established at a pre-identified location as set out in a District or Sectoral Plan. These pre-identified Command Posts could include the District Administrators Office or a Police Station for general emergencies. Special risk sites, such as the Airport and Port, will have their own nominated position for a Command Post to which all responding Silver Level Officers / Managers will respond. Further information about the establishment of a Silver level Command Post and the structure for supporting a Unified Command are set out in the Silver level Command Post SOP issued by DRDM.

For events without a defined incident scene, for example, preparations ahead of a Cyclone, the Silver Command will automatically be established at the pre-defined location for the area concerned.

Whenever a Level 2 emergency is declared, and a Silver CP established the NEOC Duty Officer must be informed. The NEOC Duty Officer will consider whether to establish the NEOC, and if so, at what level in accordance with the NEOC SOP. Where more than one Silver CP is established in response to a major or wide area event, the NEOC and Gold Level will be established automatically.

Working together at the Silver CP, the Silver Commanders from each agency will:

- Collect information from Bronze Commanders in the field and elsewhere in order to build and maintain a common understanding of the situation, risk and challenges;
- Assess significant risks and use this to inform tasking of Operational Commanders; and
- Determine priorities and key objectives for action;
- Determine priorities for allocating available resources;
- Plan and co-ordinate how and when tasks will be undertaken, and by whom;
- Obtain additional resources if required;

Ensure the health and safety of the public and personnel and act to minimize any environmental impact.

Although each of the Senior Officers / Managers at the Silver level will have specific service or agency
responsibilities, they must work together to jointly deliver an effective Multi-Agency response to the incident, ensuring that Bronze Commanders have the means, direction and co-ordination required to deliver successful outcomes. Unless there is an obvious and urgent need for intervention, Silver Commanders should not become directly involved in directing the detailed operational tasks being discharged by the Bronze Operational Level.

5.2.5 Bronze level—field operations

Bronze is the functional command level at which single agency supervisors manage their own teams and resources at incident site(s) or other affected area.

Personnel first on the scene will take immediate steps to assess the nature and extent of the problem. The Bronze Commander for each agency is deemed to be the most senior person/officer present from that agency. The individual nominated as Bronze Commander for an agency may change over time as more resources are deployed, and more senior officers arrive. However, even though a more senior officer may take over from an officer arriving as part of the predetermined attendance, the functional role remains unchanged.

Bronze Commanders will put in place an Incident Command System (ICS) as set out in the ICS SOP produced by DRDM, and concentrate their effort and resources on the specific tasks within their areas of responsibility, for example, the police will concentrate on establishing cordons, initiating evacuations and investigations, maintaining security, and managing traffic. Bronze Commanders will exercise command of their own resources and act on delegated authority from their parent organisation until or unless higher levels of management at the Silver or Gold level are established.

Individual district administrators and agencies retain command authority over their own resources and personnel deployed at the scene, but even for a relatively minor Level 1 incident resolved at the Bronze level, each agency must liaise and coordinate their on-scene activities with all other agencies involved in line with ICS requirements, ensuring a coherent and integrated effort. In most, but not all, instances, the police will establish outer cordons and coordinate the operational response at an identifiable scene, whilst the specialist response agency attending, such as fire and rescue services or medical services, will establish and control inner cordons and direct tactical operations.

These arrangements will usually be adequate to deal with most day-to-day emergency events or situations arising in the Seychelles, but if the level of emergency demands greater planning, coordination, or resources, an additional tier of management at the Silver functional command level may be necessary. A key function of a Bronze Level Operational Commander will be to evaluate the level of
the emergency as set out in section 5.1 above and consider whether circumstances warrant a higher/tactical level of management at the Silver level.

Where a Silver tactical level of command is established to coordinate the multiagency response, Bronze Commanders become responsible for implementing the Silver Commander’s tactical plan within their geographical or functional area of responsibility. To discharge this successfully, Bronze Commanders need to have a clear understanding of the Silver Commander’s intent and plan, the tasks required of them, and any restrictions on their freedom of action, at which time they in turn determine required local actions so that they can brief their own staff.

5.2.6 Overview of incident level and command functions

5.2.6.1 Level 1: Routine Local Emergency—Bronze Level Activation

Most emergency events in the Seychelles are local emergencies resolved by the initial first responders deployed and for which formal multiagency coordination and additional assistance are not required. These emergencies are termed Level 1 events, resolved at the Bronze command functional level.

Level 1 events are usually handled by the initial responding agencies or district administrators as part of their routine duties operating within their given mandate. Typically, these events involve minimal injury or damages with no significant impact on the environment/biodiversity or the economy, and the impacts are localized with no requirement for national mobilization or coordination.

For localized incidents resolved at the “Bronze” functional level, responding agencies, districts, and sectoral entities follow their own internal plans, processes, and SOPs. Whilst formal multiagency coordination through a Unified Command is unnecessary, local collaboration in the field between Bronze Commanders of different agencies is achieved through the Incident Command System. For example, small incidents involving more than one agency, such as a minor road traffic collision, may require an element of operational collaboration in the field between respective Bronze level managers from the fire and rescue services, police, or ambulance service, but do not require a higher level of formal multiagency coordination structure to be established.

Examples of Level 1 events include routine minor vehicular accidents, small structural fires that are not connected with hazardous materials, rock or tree falls, local landslides, and so forth.

5.2.6.2 Level 2: Significant Local Emergency—Silver Level Activation

Significant local emergencies are incidents that are localized but are more significant than Level 1 in terms of scale, impact, or potential impact, or requiring coordination of a larger number of response personnel from multiple agencies. Typically, Level 2 emergencies will involve additional agencies and resources beyond those forming the Level 1 predetermined first response or require a higher level of coordination and management to resolve. These emergencies are termed Level 2 events, resolved at the Silver Command functional level.

Level 2 incidents require formalized multiagency coordination at the district/on-scene level and the involvement of supervisory officers/managers from responding agencies at a level above those in charge of the immediate first response. All Silver Commanders from MDAs forming part of the Level 2 response (including NGOs and private sector as appropriate) will deploy to an agreed incident command post, either established at or near the scene, or at a pre-identified command post for the area or risk site. This will generally be the district administrators’ offices, although alternate command posts may be nominated in emergency plans for specific risk sites, such as the port or airport.

The role of the Silver level of functional command is to establish and then manage tactical plans to resolve an incident, including management and supervision of field operations and the local management and direction of all available resources.

The police Silver Commander or relevant district administrator will nominate the command post location and notify the NEOC Duty Officer whenever a Silver Command has been established.

The NEOC duty officer will consider whether an NEOC activation is required to support operations at the Silver level, and if so, at what level? For example, the NEOC command support function may be activated to provide technical support for Level 2 emergencies without the need to fully activate the Level 3 tier of incident management and the Gold Command.
Examples of Level 2 events include floods or landslides that affect strategic infrastructure, such as roads, power or water supplies, events that impact a large area, minor maritime accidents, structural fires in medium size buildings or public places like schools, for example. The key difference between Level 1 and Level 2 incidents is the geographical scale of the event and its terms of impact, complexity of response operations, and the requirement to manage and coordinate responders.

5.2.6.3 Level 3: National Emergency—Gold Level

Activation

National emergencies at Level 3 include any incident that may or will require national level coordination and resources due to its scale, impact, or potential consequences, but is unlikely to require a declaration of a state of emergency or international assistance. These emergencies are termed Level 3 events, resolved at the Gold Command functional level.

Level 3 incidents may be declared in advance of an impacting event to enable appropriate coordination structures and resources to be put in place, for example, in response to an early warning of a significant event such as a tsunami or cyclone. In response to a Level 3 activation, national, district and/or sectoral plans will be activated, along with the establishment of NEOC and appropriate Silver Command posts to manage operational responses and activities in the field. Any widespread incident requiring more than two Level 2 Silver Commands being established will automatically be escalated to Level 3 and Gold Command will be established at NEOC.

When Level 3 is activated, the principal secretary of DRDM or their deputy, will determine the level of NEOC activation necessary and the members of the Gold Command group required to attend NEOC, dependent on the circumstances. The Gold Command will coordinate the national level of response and provide support to Silver in the effective resolution of the incident. The NEOC and Gold Command will be established in line with the NEOC SOP produced by DRDM, including the NEOC ICS structure of command and general staff.

The Gold Command key role is to ensure effective multi-agency and multi-sectoral coordination at the national level, manage and direct national resources, and provide strategic direction to Silver Commanders in the field.

Where NEOC is established to provide national coordination and direction, they should retain a strategic focus and avoid becoming drawn into tactical operations. It is the responsibility of Silver Commanders at relevant command posts to manage operations and tactics in the field as required to resolve the emergency.

Whenever NEOC is established, the principal secretary of DRDM will liaise with the Platinum level to keep them appraised of the situation and consider the need to escalate the incident to the Platinum level.

The starting point for response to, and resolution of, Level 3 emergencies will be the activation of any national hazard or sectoral plans. Where no specific plans exist for emergency, the national base plan in the NIEMP and associated structures for ICS will provide a starting point for the response.

Examples of Level 3 events include serious fires or building collapses, flooding, or landslide events that require deployment of national resources but do not warrant declaration of a state of emergency. Level 3 arrangements may also be activated in response to warnings of a significant event, such as a cyclone, tsunami or severe rainfall warning so that appropriate actions can be coordinated in advance.

5.2.6.4 Level 4: Significant National Emergency—Platinum Level Activation

Significant national emergencies at Level 4 include any incident for which a declaration of state of emergency is required or enacted, and which has significant policy, financial, environmental, or diplomatic implications for the country, or any other emergency that is significant due to its magnitude, geographic spread, or its impact on the country’s ability to go about its normal business. Declaration of a formal state of emergency can be for a district, region, or at the national level. Any event that disrupts the function of three or more districts and has a national impact on the economic and social structure of the country will automatically be declared a significant national emergency. These emergencies are termed Level 4 events and are resolved at the Platinum functional level.

The president, vice president, minister of the lead government department involved, and/or other ministers as nominated by the President, will form a Platinum group to ensure that the Gold group is provided with appropriate policy direction and authorization. The Platinum group
will be supported by such senior advisors as they see fit, depending on the nature and scale of the event.

Level 4 (Platinum) events are differentiated from Level 3 (Gold) events by the scale of the event and its impact on the country. The impact or consequences of an event may be more serious than the initiating event that caused them. For example, a fire at a fuel storage depot may be manageable at Level 3 using national resources and existing delegated authority. However, the consequences of the event in terms of economic and environmental damages and continuity of key services, such as electrical generation, may require the activation of Level 4.

The need (or potential need) to enact emergency powers or requiring requests for the assistance of international resources will automatically invoke a Level 4 activation. Platinum may also be enacted if the nature of the emergency requires ministers to provide formal policy direction or authorizations beyond the day-to-day delegated authority of Gold level managers.

In response to a Level 4 activation, national, district and/or sectoral plans will be activated, along with full activation of NEOC and appropriate Silver Command posts established to coordinate operations in the field.

Members of Platinum will maintain an overview of the incident and response actions being coordinated by Gold, receiving regular briefings from the NEOC chair and information provided by the NEOC command support group. Platinum will consider any requests from Gold for emergency declarations or international assistance and provide policy direction and authorization as necessary.

Examples of Level 4 events include tsunamis, plane crashes, large scale maritime accidents, health emergencies including epidemics and pandemics, and in general events that involve a large number of people and international implications, or secondary effects like tourism business interruption or island food security.

Figure 9. National Incident Command System roles and responsibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functional Command Level</th>
<th>Who/Where?</th>
<th>Key Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Platinum                 | President–National | • Policy Direction  
                          |                          | • Ultimate Decision Makers  
                          |                          | • Ensure whole of Government/society approach |
| Gold                     | Commanders and PS of responding MDAs NEOC | • Coordinates Activates  
                          |                          | • Sets National Technical Direction  
                          |                          | • Allocates National Resources |
| Silver                   | DA’s, Senior Officers of responding MDAs Command Post | • Coordinates Operational Activates  
                          |                          | • Interprets National Direction, Sets Response Tactics and Objectives  
                          |                          | • Allocates Local Resources |
| Bronze                   | Districts, Responders, NGOs, Businesses, Citizens | • Execute Silver Plan  
                          |                          | • Managing Single Agency/Local Response  
                          |                          | • Coordinate Actions at the District/Incident Scene |
5.3 Functional Areas

The functional areas are a mechanism for identifying key tasks associated with emergency preparedness and response and grouping the agencies responsible for delivering them during emergency response operations. In clarifying responsibilities for delivery of key functional areas, public, private, and non-government institutions can then support the response by deploying personnel and assets and sharing relevant information. Agencies may work individually or on a multiagency basis to deliver key functions and tasks, coordinated through incident command posts and the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC).

Each functional area defines the functional group purpose and scope, and concept of operation, and identifies the Lead Government Departments (LGDs) and support agencies assigned to the function and establishes their roles and responsibilities in the implementation of key response tasks. The NIEMP is set up along five functional areas, which are illustrated in Annex 1. These functional areas contain detailed descriptions of the methods that government ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) follow for critical operational functions during emergency operations.

DRDM has identified critical response and recovery functions in five key areas under the responsibility of the lead and supporting MDAs. A breakdown of those critical response and recovery functions, the lead and supporting agencies responsible for their delivery, and a brief description of key activities are set out below. More details are set out in Annex 1.

1. Rescue and security
2. Health
3. Humanitarian services
4. Essential infrastructure
5. Emergency management

For most emergency functions, successful operations require a coordinated effort from a number of departments, agencies, and volunteer organisations. To facilitate a coordinated effort, a number of central government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) are assigned primary responsibility for planning and coordinating specific emergency functions. Generally, primary responsibility for an emergency function will be assigned to a department or agency that has legal responsibility for that function or possesses the most appropriate knowledge and skills. Other MDAs may be assigned support responsibilities for specific emergency functions. Table 6 summarizes the general emergency responsibilities of key government departments and agencies and other organisations.

Specific MDAs will be assigned primary responsibilities to prepare, perform, and coordinate each of the functions and tasks listed in Annex 1. Others will be assigned support responsibilities. The specific tasks to be performed are detailed in the Task by Functional Areas section.

Whilst DRDM has responsibility for overall leadership and coordination of emergency management and recovery efforts through the coordination arrangements set out in the NEIMP, lead and supporting MDAs are responsible for developing specific capabilities and for providing the technical and policy leadership for safe and effective resolution of the incident. Therefore, it will be the responsibility of those MDAs having primary or support responsibility to maintain current standard operating guidelines and checklists which detail how their assigned task will be performed to implement this plan.

Where it is unclear which, if any, ministry or department should be designated as LGD, DRDM may nominate a lead, or retain the role. In some cases, the lead government department for the response phase of an emergency may be different from the recovery phase, reflecting the changing nature of the challenge, the different issues arising, and expertise required. In some wide area emergencies (e.g., flooding), it is possible that response and recovery activity will be occurring simultaneously in different parts of the country under the leadership of two different LGDs. The activation of national command and coordination structures and use of multiagency coordination groups will alleviate any potential challenges this raises.

The disaster response capabilities developed by the Seychelles lead and supporting MDAs need to be suitable and sufficient to manage the range of foreseeable disasters that may impact the country. To identify the capabilities and the required capacities needed to respond to foreseeable emergencies in the Seychelles, a range of reference disaster scenarios representing the key ‘worst credible threats’ to the Seychelles are required. These scenarios can be used for both capability and capacity assessment of first response agencies, and for design of more detailed SOPs and checklists required for each response and recovery task identified.

More information on the Functional Areas including purpose, concept of operations, and tasks for each functional area can be found in Annex 1.
6. Implementation of the Plan

6.1 Review of Plans and Capabilities

The NIEMP introduces several emergency preparedness and response structures that are likely to impact all NGOs, businesses, and sectoral plans in the Seychelles, in addition to all MDAs. A key task for all of those MDAs and organisations will be to revise their own plans, policies, and working arrangements to ensure that they are consistent and compatible with the NIEMP.

It is necessary to complement the NIEMP with the contingency plans specific to each event, as well as to guide the institutions in the formulation and updating of their institutional plans as fundamental tools for the adequate implementation of the response. There are several existing sectoral plans or emergency-specific (contingency) plans that impact multiple agencies, and whilst each has a responsible lead government MDA, they will require review on a multiagency basis to ensure that all response partners are planning and working in a cohesive and consistent way. It is a matter for DRDM to determine the final list of these strategic plans for review, but it is suggested that as a minimum, the list should include a review of plans for:

1. The port
2. The airport
3. District plans
4. Maritime emergencies/oil spill
5. Health emergencies
6. Tsunamis

When reviewing current plans, reference can be made to key elements of the NIEMP, the levels of the incident and the activation, the functional areas and task descriptions set out at 5.3, and the matrix of responsible MDAs. These provide guidance on the range of tasks that will need to be carried out in response to the specific emergencies, the agencies responsible for them, and the contingency or institutional plans they are referring to. Reviews of current plans should include a review of capabilities and capacities across all phases of the incident. These phases commence with the activation, e.g., a first call from a member of the public to a responder agency via the 999 system, receipt of an early warning signal to a public agency through to the dispatch of responders, management and resolution of the incident, and post incident evaluations actions and recovery activities. It is required at each phase, in many instances carried out by multiple agencies, that the task is reviewed and formulated in a consensual way to ensure that the overall plan is robust.

In order to plan effectively, MDAs need to be clear about what type and scale of events they should prepare for. A common methodology for this work is to produce a suite of reference disaster scenarios that represent the key ‘worst credible threats’ to the Seychelles. These scenarios enable both lead and supporting MDA responders to plan in a consistent and cohesive way. The scenarios can also be used for the design of more detailed SOPs and operational checklists, and to identify specific equipment and training requirements for each response task.
Whilst each reference disaster scenario should be developed using data from past disasters and the best available modelling, and combining science and evidence, the development of these scenarios do not to be perfect if there is not much information available and could be based on a qualitative “risk assessment” process, and the outcomes should not be confused with a prediction about the scale of disasters most likely to occur. Their primary purpose is to create a robust but realistic set of planning assumptions against which a transparent and consistent assessment of responder agency’s roles and capabilities can be conducted and to support the formulation of contingency or institutional plans.

By ensuring that both lead and supporting MDA’s capabilities and capacities are measured against the same hypothetical scenarios, it is possible to identify any potential gaps or overlaps and to allocate responsibility for addressing these. In some instances, a capability may have been developed by a responder agency to deal with very minor or routine events, but this may be insufficient in terms of capacity to respond to a major, yet foreseeable, emergency, e.g., a flood rescue capability may exist, but the capacity needed to rescue 3–5 persons is very different than the one required to rescue 100 persons from flood waters across five districts, if a major extended event occurs.

Based on historical scenarios and the possible impacts generated by different hazards, in terms of contingency plans and scenarios to use institutional plan it is recommended to use:

1. The port—maritime emergencies/oil spill
2. Large aircraft accidents
3. Health emergencies related to large-scale epidemics
4. Tsunamis
5. Major fires
6. Cyclone leading to combined landslide and flooding

Each reference disaster scenario should be designed as an extreme test of multiple responder capabilities, after highly implausible scenarios have been excluded. The scenarios should be developed through an iterative process, subject to extensive consultation with experts and stakeholders from lead and supporting MDAs, as well as technical experts. Each scenario will inevitably test multiple task capabilities. For example, a well-designed cyclone scenario would facilitate assessment and testing of early warning and dissemination arrangements, and different tasks related to functional areas 1 to 5 (search and rescue, epidemiological surveillance, provision and management of shelters, recovery of critical infrastructure, etc.)

In terms of deciding whether a functional capability exists or is sufficient to deal with the likely challenges faced by the Seychelles, a capability evaluation following the T.E.P.I.D O.I.L process will be useful. This separates out the various components required to be in place for a functional task to be conducted safely and examines each of them separately.

**Capability assessment—T.E.P.I.D O.I.L**

1. Training
2. Equipment
3. Personnel
4. Infrastructure
5. Doctrine and Concepts
6. Organisation
7. Information
8. Logistics

Whilst different elements of capability may develop at different speeds, only when all elements outlined in the T.E.P.I.D O.I.L model are in place and working effectively can a capability truly be said to exist. For example, even when there is a large number of personnel available and the latest technical rescue equipment, there is not a capability in place unless the personnel are trained, working to an agreed SOP, and supported by appropriate logistics and command systems.

**Terms of Reference (TOR) /Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)**

Terms of Reference (TOR) must be prepared for any MDAs and organisations having a role under the NIEMP. TORs are to explicitly set out the purpose, scope, and functions of the MDAs and organisations and its membership, accountability, and mode of engagement.

Standard operating procedures (SOPs) must be prepared for any MDAs and organisations having an operational role under the NIEMP. In addition to the requirements for TORs, SOPs are required to set out the mode of activation and operation of the MDAs and organisations.

TORs/SOPs that could apply to multiple agencies and relate directly to delivery of a function of the NIEMP are to be approved by DRDM, and once approved, become part of the
NIEMP. TORs/SOPs shall include a process for accountability and reporting provisions to minimize the potential for losses and misappropriation of resources and funds during disaster operations.

6.2 Training and Capacity Building

To implement the NIEMP, it is necessary to have an extended dissemination of the document and a training plan on key components of the NIEMP for all institutions identified as lead or support MDAs in the matrix of responsibilities. The dissemination and training activities should be conducted at multiple functional levels so that the responsible stakeholders can fulfill their obligations to operate the Seychelles Incident Command System, including the NEOC. The Lead and Support MDAs of the different tasks should develop specific training activities for their personnel and incorporate them into the orientation programme for all their staff members.

DRDM should conduct frequent exercises to test all or parts of the NIEMP. Exercises may include national and district representatives, as well as NGO and private sector organisations that have a role in coordinating emergency activities with the government. Members of the NEOC will participate in planning and coordination of the nationwide exercise. Afterward, action reports following exercises or real world activations of the plan will be completed by DRDM to capture any findings, such as planning deficiencies, resource gaps, process refinements, or other areas recommended for improvement.

Specific skills training and capacity building requirements for implementation of the NIEMP will result from the outcome of the planning and capability review process set out in section 6.1. Those reviews will identify sectoral and agency gaps and challenges that should be prioritized and addressed.

Critical to this process is the training of key staff from DRDM and First Responder Organisations identified in Functional Area 1. The priority is to ensure that those staff required to establish a Unified Command at the Gold or Silver functional level fully understand the NEIMP and can undertake their roles effectively. Ministers at the Platinum level will also require sensitization to appreciate the critical role they may have to play. This training and sensitization may best be achieved by developing a number of staff to act as trainers from DRDM and other MDAs, and then cascading that training out to the remaining staff members, including the Bronze level. Training will also need to be provided to the private sector, NGOs, and other any other groups expected to play a formal role in emergency preparedness and response.
Table 6. Implementation Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.1 Planning and capability assessment</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key tasks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. All MDAs and organisations are required to revise their own plans, policies, and working arrangements to ensure that they are consistent and compatible with the NIEMP.</td>
<td>All Seychelles plans will follow a consistent emergency preparedness and response structure and Incident Command System, ensuring that disasters can be managed effectively and loss of life and damage to property and the environment minimalized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. DRDM to determine the appropriate reference scenarios required for a robust evaluation of the functional areas and tasks identified in the NIEMP and allocate them to the responsible lead government department for review.</td>
<td>Reference scenarios will ensure a transparent and risk appropriate evaluation of the Seychelles EP&amp;R plans, capabilities, and capacities. They will form the foundation for multiagency training and capacity building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. In support of multiagency plans, individual agencies must review their internal plans and SOPs to ensure they are consistent with the NIEMP.</td>
<td>All responders in the Seychelles will operate to a common ICS, improving collaboration at incidents and reducing risks to both the public and the responders themselves.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.2 Training and capacity building</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key tasks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. The process set out at 6.1 will produce a gap analysis and list of capability and capacity building needs. Agencies need to record any gaps identified so that they can be prioritized, and appropriate plans put in place to address them. DRDM should maintain these lists and monitor implementation of improvement plans.</td>
<td>Building up the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of the Seychelles is a long-term process, and key priority tasks need to be identified. A coherent and risk-based approach to development of capabilities and capacities will ensure that maximum benefits can be delivered and opportunities to deliver efficiencies through better targeted investment maximized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. In addition to those issues identified through the process set out in 6.1, in order to roll out the NIEMP, there needs to be an initial training and development programme to ensure that all personnel undertaking a formal incident management role in the Seychelles Functional Incident Command System fully understand their personal role, and how it fits into the wider Incident Command System.</td>
<td>All multiagency and multi-sectoral responders will understand the Seychelles ICS and will be able to undertake their duties safely and effectively, reducing risks to both the public and the responders themselves.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. References


ANNEX I FUNCTIONAL AREAS

Functional Area I: Rescue and Security

PURPOSE (Goals)
Coordinate and provide the set of immediate actions carried out by the population and the relevant first response agencies, with the aim of saving lives, controlling secondary events, such as fires, explosions, leaks, and protecting assets and maintaining public safety.

SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (Actions)
Mobilize teams for locating, rescuing, and providing first aid to the wounded, and provide support to control secondary events such as fires and hazardous materials, as well as guaranteeing safety and security to the population and the emergency personnel, including evacuating the population exposed to imminent risk.

TASKS—This functional area is divided into six main tasks:

Table A1.1. Functional Area I: Rescue and Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 1.1. SEARCH AND RESCUE—SEA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PURPOSE: Locate, categorize and rescue affected persons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS: Intervention starts after an emergency call is received reporting a maritime emergency within the maritime zone of the Seychelles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Agency: The Coastguard Unit of the Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Agencies: Department of Risk and Disaster Management, Seychelles Police Force, Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency, Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority, Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration, Seychelles Port Authority, Islands Development Company Ltd.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 1.2 SEARCH AND RESCUE—LAND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PURPOSE: Locate, categorize and rescue affected persons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS: Intervention starts after an emergency call is received reporting affected persons resulting from structural collapse, flooding and/or road, boat, or airplane accidents. It includes location, identification, stabilization and rescue, onsite medical care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Government Agency: Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Agencies: Red Cross Society Seychelles, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Seychelles Police Force, Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority, Department of Tourism</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 1.3  LAW AND ORDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PURPOSE: Guarantee protection of life, public security, and compliance by emergency response operators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS: The intervention begins once a report is received of an event requiring immediate emergency response where, due to its scale or at the request of first respondents, it is necessary to isolate and/or cordon off the affected areas, and control public security and traffic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Government Agency: Seychelles Police Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Agencies: Seychelles Peoples Defence Force</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table A1.1. Functional Area I: Rescue and Security (cont.)

**TASK 1.4. FIREFIGHTING**

**PURPOSE:** Firefighting activities including protection, detection, and suppression of fire, irrespective of its nature, guaranteeing the protection of life and property.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** Responses to fire incidents start with the reception of reports that a fire has broken out and the mobilization of a predetermined attendance firefighting response. Actions include fire detection, control and extinction, evacuation of affected people, and on-site provision of basic health care.

**Lead Government Agency:** Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency

**Supporting Agencies:** Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority, Seychelles National Parks Authority, Seychelles Port Authority, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Seychelles Petroleum Company, Seychelles Police Force, Islands Development Company Ltd

**TASK 1.5. EVACUATION OF AREAS AFFECTED/AT RISK**

**PURPOSE:** Transfer population from areas at risk to safe areas and avoid panic. Effective and timely public information will significantly reduce the risk of panic.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** The intervention starts once the evacuation order is issued by the relevant authority (police, local government, DRDM), i.e., the alert is declared. It includes informing the population with the activation of predefined alarms, the definition of evacuation routes if it has not been done previously, the evacuation of the community, and the monitoring and authorized return of the evacuated population. This task can be applicable to small as well as a large-scale evacuation and should consider marine and aeronautical routes.

**Lead Government Agency:** Local Government Department

**Supporting Agencies:** Red Cross Society Seychelles, Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency, Seychelles Land Transport Agency, Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration, Seychelles Port Authority, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Department of Tourism, Local Government Department Health Care Agency, Department of Risk and Disaster Agency, Islands Development Company Ltd

**TASK 1.6. HAZARDOUS MATERIAL–RELATED EMERGENCIES**

**PURPOSE:** Respond to incidents involving hazardous materials.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** The intervention starts once an incident involving hazardous materials is reported. It includes identifying and understanding the event and taking action to control the emergency.

**Lead Government Agency:** Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency

**Supporting Agencies:** Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (MOECC), Public Health Authority, Red Cross Society Seychelles, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Seychelles Petroleum Company, Seychelles Police Force, Islands Development Company Ltd
Functional Area II: Health

**Purpose**
This functional area describes how medical assistance will be coordinated in response to public health and medical care needs following a major disaster or emergency, or during a developing potential medical situation.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (Actions)**
Once the emergency occurs, it begins with the mobilization of personnel, goods, equipment, and supplies to the impact area, and patient identification and transport (depending on level of complexity) according to the approved plans. It continues through the emergency. It includes hospital care, control of epidemiological surveillance, environmental health (management of vectors and domestic animals, basic sanitation), psychosocial support, and management of dead bodies.

**TASKS**—This functional area is divided into six tasks:

### Table A1.2. Functional Area II: Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 2.1. PRE-HOSPITAL CARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Provide quick assistance to affected individuals in the incident area and transport them to a care center, if required, to safeguard their health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> It begins once the report is confirmed. The emergency is declared, a care center for victims is created, resources are allocated according to needs, and patients are categorized by severity (triage) to ensure that hospital care takes place in the most suitable location. Care provided at this stage is aimed at stabilizing the patient until their subsequent evacuation or transfer to the ultimate care center (hospital).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Public Health Authority, Red Cross Society Seychelles, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Seychelles Police Force</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 2.2. HOSPITAL CARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Provide timely and adequate medical attention to affected persons during an emergency by guaranteeing adequate hospital capabilities (facilities and human resources) according to their required level of care. Serve patients through their whole rehabilitation process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> It runs from the confirmation of the report, declaration of the emergency, and activation of the plan for patient care in health centers, until the end of the emergency. It includes the damage assessment of the hospital infrastructure and the reestablishment of health services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Public Health Authority, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 2.3. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Determine the epidemiological pattern and care by timely detecting outbreaks, in order to safeguard the health of survivors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> Evaluating potential epidemic risk, implementation of epidemiological surveillance system in disasters, and intervention during epidemic outbreaks. It includes the systematic identification, collection, collation, analysis, and interpretation of disease occurrence and public health event data to take timely and robust action. It also includes the timely dissemination of the resulting information to those who need to know for effective and appropriate action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Public Health Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Health Care Agency, National Biosecurity Agency, Seychelles Police Force, Department of Tourism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table A1.2. Functional Area II: Health (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong></td>
<td>Avoid or mitigate the environment deterioration and its negative effects on the health of the affected population resulting from a disaster event, including rescuing and treating affected animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong></td>
<td>It begins with the surveillance, control, and monitoring of water quality, food and beverages, solid waste, handling and disposal of human waste and wastewater, and vector control, including the treatment of affected animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Public Health Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong></td>
<td>Health Care Agency, MOECC, National Biosecurity Agency, Seychelles Police Force, Ministry of Habitat, Infrastructure and Land Transport</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task 2.5. MANAGEMENT OF DEAD BODIES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong></td>
<td>Locate, recover, and receive human remains and place them in the designed areas for subsequent handling by forensics for disasters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong></td>
<td>The handling of dead bodies begins with the search and recovery of the dead bodies by relevant institutions. It finishes with the delivery of bodies to the families and the categorization of unidentified bodies to be buried in individual graves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Public Health Authority, Seychelles Police Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong></td>
<td>Red Cross Society Seychelles, Seychelles Interfaith Council, Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 2.6. PHYSOCOSOCIAL SUPPORT</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong></td>
<td>Provide timely and adequate mental health care to people affected during an emergency to reduce mental effects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong></td>
<td>It begins once the report is confirmed, the emergency is declared, and the plan for mental health care of the affected population is activated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Health Care Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong></td>
<td>Seychelles Interfaith Council, Family Affairs Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Functional Area III: Humanitarian Services**

**PURPOSE (Goals)**
It aims to develop and coordinate the actions related to the care and treatment of persons affected by emergencies or disasters, especially regarding the provision of shelter, food, and basic needs, and the protection of vulnerable groups (minors, pregnant women, individuals with disabilities, sick persons, and the elderly).

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (Actions)**
It starts once the number of affected persons has been identified and measured (categorized by family group, gender, age, special conditions, and basic needs required), taking into consideration the socio-cultural context in each area. This information is essential to understand basic needs and specialised care of individuals with special conditions and vulnerable groups.

**TASKS**—This functional area is divided into four tasks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table A1.3. Functional Area III: Humanitarian Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TASK 3.1. REGISTRATION AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Determine the number of affected persons in need of shelter and food or non-food assistance and organize the delivery of humanitarian services to meet their basic needs and support the necessary actions for locating missing or lost persons after a large-scale event, with the goal of reuniting family members and relatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> The intervention starts once there are affected persons who have lost their assets and require attention to satisfy their basic needs. This task includes identifying, categorizing, and quantifying the affected population (the disappeared, deceased, and/or at risk), and determining their basic needs after the event. Information should be collected on the composition of affected families/individuals (total number of members, number of adults, children, and teenagers, gender, and ages), name of the head of the family, individuals in need of special attention or belonging to vulnerable groups (children, teenagers, persons with disabilities, older adults, etc.), shelter or housing needs and personal (food, clothing, hygiene items, medicines) and domestic needs (mattresses, blankets, kitchen elements, etc.), taking into consideration the equipment and goods demanded by vulnerable groups. The task includes creating a database of missing persons (name, gender, age, last known location, clothing, special features, etc.) and disseminating the name of missing and found person(s) through the radio, television, or web, etc. Furthermore, it is important to identify the networks and social support mechanisms that could help assist the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Local government department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Red Cross Society Seychelles, Family Affairs Department, Agency for Social Protection, Department of Information and Communication Technology, Department of Tourism, Islands Development Company Ltd.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **TASK 3.2. SHELTER INSTALLATION AND MANAGEMENT**  |
| **PURPOSE:** Provide temporary shelter for the affected population whose homes are destroyed or damaged, or who have been vacated during an emergency, guaranteeing a sufficient number of shelters with appropriate health and safety conditions. |
| **SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** The intervention starts once individuals and families lose their homes, are located in areas of risk, and/or do not have access to basic services during a disaster event. This task determines the number of families and persons to be housed, the safe areas for the location of shelters, the installation of shelters and the installation of public services (distribution of drinking water, provision of energy and communications services, and appropriate disposal of solid waste) and protective measures. |
| **Lead Government Agency:** Local government department |
| **Supporting Agencies:** Department of Risk and Disaster Management; Health Care Agency; Landscape and Waste Management Agency; Ministry of Habitat; Infrastructure and Land Transport; Public Health Authority; Public Utilities Corporation; Red Cross Society Seychelles; Seychelles Interfaith Council; Seychelles Peoples Defence Force; Seychelles Police Force; Agency for Social Protection; Department of Tourism; NGOs; Family Affairs Department; Islands Development Company Ltd. |
### Task 3.3. Food—Non-Food Assistance

**Purpose:** Temporarily provide food, covering, furniture, and/or items for personal hygiene to persons directly affected by an emergency, with the goal of satisfying their basic needs and ensuring a balanced diet, taking into account different food needs (pregnant women, children, the elderly, etc.) and the social and cultural characteristics of the affected population. Provide food and items in good condition in a timely manner until access is re-established.

**Scope/Concept of Operations:** The intervention starts by identifying affected total or partial loss of goods, or people unable to buy and prepare food. This task includes understanding community demands; planning, distribution, and control of aid; and, if applicable, community food preparation.

**Lead Government Agency:** Local government department

**Supporting Agencies:** Red Cross Society Seychelles, Seychelles Trading Company LTD, Family Affairs Department, Agency for Social Protection, NGOs, Department of Tourism, Islands Development Company Ltd.

### Task 3.4. Protection of Vulnerable Groups

**Purpose:** Ensure the well-being of affected individuals belonging to vulnerable groups, as they require special assistance.

**Scope/Concept of Operations:** The intervention starts with the reception of the report on people affected during an emergency (reported in the registration) who have been identified as part of a vulnerable group. It includes developing an action plan and implementing measures to satisfy their needs and well-being.

**Lead Government Agency:** Local government department

**Supporting Agencies:** Department of Risk and Disaster Management, Red Cross Society Seychelles, Family Affairs Department, Agency for Social Protection, Health Care Agency, NGOs, Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency, Seychelles Interfaith Council, Seychelles Police Force, Islands Development Company Ltd.

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**Table A1.3. Functional Area III: Humanitarian Services (cont.)**
### Functional Area IV: Essential Infrastructure and Services

**PURPOSE (Goals)**

Monitor natural and/or human-induced events and assess damage to essential services, basic sanitation (water, sewage, and solid waste), energy, telecommunications, transportation, and the environment, in order to define the actions to be taken by the authorities for the protection of life and property, and for the rapid reestablishment of services and recovery of the environment.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (Actions)**

It begins with the identification and estimation of damages (determining area affected by the event) and the state of critical infrastructure (water, sanitation, energy, telecommunications, transport) and the environment; the consolidation and organisation of information on damages; and the planning and prioritization of emergency management for these services. The process ends with the rehabilitation/early recovery of the various systems and the environment.

**TASKS**—This functional area is divided into five tasks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 4.1. ASSESSMENT OF DISASTER RISKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Identify and perform a quantitative and qualitative record of the characteristics of potential natural events (tsunami, landslides, dam ruptures, floods, fires, etc.), human events (i.e., health related, transport accidents, industrial accidents, terrorism, etc.), or secondary risk events (i.e., oil spills) that may occur as a result of the main phenomenon, from the start of the emergency through subsequent stages, in order to determine its possible effects and appropriately establish priorities for response and rehabilitation work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> It starts after evaluating and categorizing the main event and notifying relevant authorities, which will generate alerts for tsunamis or other dangerous events. It includes analyzing relevant information and reports from the tsunami warning center at the international level, surveying and categorizing resulting events, analyzing historical data and relying on previous experiences in order to evaluate potential resulting events, and developing plans for emergency response and alerts. It also includes analyzing affected areas, identifying the areas affected by secondary events, and compiling all the information, at later stages, in order to keep record of the event and plan the rehabilitation/early recovery process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Department of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> MOECC, Seychelles Meteorological Authority, Seychelles National Parks Authority, Department of Tourism, Local Government Department, Landscape and Waste Management Agency.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 4.2. RESTORATION OF COMMUNICATION SERVICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Understand, qualify, and quantify the extent of damage to communications (telephone, radio, and satellite), and the impact on service coverage and quality, from the start of the emergency and through subsequent stages, in order to plan appropriately, establish response priorities, and ensure the rapid rehabilitation of services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> During the initial stage of the emergency, identify the distribution of damages and estimate the impact on telecommunications infrastructure, through rapid assessments and/or overflights of affected areas (in case of large-scale events). It also includes surveying, quantifying, and qualifying the damages according to detailed methodologies, in order to establish the operational capacity and define the measures to guarantee protection of human lives, protection and management of infrastructure, and the rehabilitation of services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Department of Information and Communication Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Ministry of Habitat, Infrastructure and Land Transport; AIRTEL; Cable and wireless; Intelvision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TASK 4.3. RESTORATION OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

**PURPOSE:** Understand, qualify, and quantify the extent of damage to transport infrastructure (air, maritime, and road) and the impact on service coverage and quality, from the start of the emergency and through subsequent stages, in order to plan appropriately, establish response priorities, and ensure the rapid rehabilitation of services.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** During the initial stage of the emergency, identify the distribution of damages and estimate the impact on transport infrastructure through rapid assessments and/or overflights of affected areas (in case of large-scale events). It also includes surveying, quantifying, and qualifying the damages according to detailed methodologies, in order to establish the operational capacity and define the measures to guarantee protection of human lives, protection and management of infrastructure, and the rehabilitation of services.

**Lead Government Agencies:** Ministry of Habitat, Infrastructure and Land Transport; Seychelles Land Transport Agency, Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority

**Supporting Agencies:** Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration; Ministry of Habitat, Land Transport

### TASK 4.4. RESTORATION OF WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

**PURPOSE:** Understand, qualify, and quantify the extent of damage to water and sanitation infrastructure (treatment plants, water, and sewage) and the impact on coverage and service quality, from the start of the emergency through subsequent stages, in order to plan and set priorities for response actions and ensure rapid rehabilitation of services. Verify and guarantee the quality and quantity of water supply for the general population until public services are reestablished.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** During the initial stage of the emergency, identify the geographical distribution of damages and estimate the impact on potable water, and sewerage and sanitation infrastructure, through rapid assessments and/or overflights of the affected areas (in the case of large-scale events). It also includes surveying, quantifying, and qualifying damages through detailed methodologies in order to establish the operational capacity and define the measures to be taken to guarantee protection of human lives, protection and management of infrastructure, and rehabilitation of services.

**Lead Government Agency:** Public Utilities Corporation

**Supporting Agencies:** Public Health Authority, MOECC

### TASK 4.5. RESTORATION OF ENERGY SUPPLY

**PURPOSE:** Understand, qualify and quantify the extent of damage to the energy infrastructure (electricity, gas, oil, and others) and the impact on the coverage and quality of energy supply, from the start of the emergency through subsequent stages, in order to plan and establish the priorities for response actions and achieve rapid rehabilitation of supply.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** During the initial stage of the emergency, identify the geographical distribution of damages and estimate the impact on energy infrastructure (electricity, gas, pipelines), through rapid assessments and/or overflights of the affected areas (in the case of large-scale events). It also includes: surveying, quantifying, and qualifying the damages according to detailed methodologies in order to establish the operational capacity and define the measures to guarantee protection of human lives, protection and management of infrastructure, and the rehabilitation of supply.

**Lead Government Agency:** Public Utilities Corporation

**Supporting Agencies:** MOECC, Seychelles Petroleum Company

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**Table A1.4. Functional Area IV: Essential Infrastructure and Services (cont.)**
Functional Area V: Emergency Management

PURPOSE (Goals)
Lead disaster/emergency response through coordination with the relevant subnational entities; establish decisions to be translated into effective response actions, based on timely information; design and keep track of actions for early recovery.

SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (Actions)
It begins once the characteristics of large-scale events are identified, the alert is declared, if required, and the convening of the various Unified Commands (at national and local/district/region levels) according to the NIEMP. The information is analysed and processed for the prioritization and coordination of response and rehabilitation work, emergency declaration according to impact, and territorial distribution. A comprehensive action plan is established for managing the various emergency response actions, followed by continuous monitoring of their implementation, taking decisions, making the necessary adjustments, and guaranteeing appropriate legal support and technical, human, and financial resources. Throughout the response process, the management must ensure continuous reporting on the impact and existing risks resulting from the event, safety recommendations, specific response and relief actions, and how to have access to relief/aid being provided.

TASKS—This functional area is divided into eight tasks:

Table A1.5. Functional Area V: Emergency Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 5.1. COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY PLANNING AND COORDINATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Evaluating the scale of the event and its consequences, and taking decisions for identifying strategic objectives, necessary mechanisms of action and coordination, and evaluating resource management and needs, in order to protect the population effectively and efficiently.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> The intervention begins by verifying the characteristics of a large-scale hazard event, declaring alerts, if required, and convening members working at the Regional Command Post or National Operation Centers (from national and subnational levels), who, based on the SOPs (at national and subnational levels), are in charge of planning specific emergency relief work by defining objectives, strategies, resource allocation, while guaranteeing appropriate follow-up and required adjustments throughout the implementation process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Agencies:</strong> Department of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Local government department, Vice-president office and Cat 1 and Cat 2 depending on the incident and location</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 5.2. PUBLIC INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Provide the population with timely information and recommendations on the impact caused by the emergency and the response actions taken for protecting lives, public and private assets, and the environment. Provide alerts and information about the actions and measures to be taken against potential risks resulting from the main event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> The intervention begins once the event report is received. This task includes acquire an understanding about the post-event scenario, preparing press releases and information chains, as well as communication strategies and citizen awareness strategies for risk prevention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Agencies:</strong> Department of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Local government department, Vice-president office and Cat 1 and Cat 2 depending on the incident and location</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 5.3. LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE:</strong> Ensure that the operations and actions carried out in response to an emergency are executed with the guidance and support of the current legal framework and ensure that the allocation of resources is executed with technical criteria of foresight and rationality, in accordance with disaster scenarios.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:</strong> The intervention begins with the evaluation of the need to make exceptional decisions such as the declaration of the emergency (national, regional, or district level), curfews, etc. The analysis of the administrative needs to implement the comprehensive action plan, the execution of the resources in an efficient way so that the operations are supported by the appropriate economic and legal framework, based on the decisions of the Command Post—NEOC Gold—Platinum Command and the articulation of the different levels of government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead Government Agency:</strong> Department of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Agencies:</strong> Department of Finance, Attorney General</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table A1.5. Functional Area V: Emergency Management (cont.)

**TASK 5.4. COORDINATION OF DAMAGE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

**PURPOSE:** Evaluate the post-disaster scenario and determine the needs of affected persons, in order to prioritize the lines of intervention to provide optimal response, compare needs with existing capacities, and determine whether an international appeal for aid is needed.

**SCOPE / CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** Collect and consolidate information on the identification and damage assessment of critical infrastructure (water, sanitation, energy, telecommunications, transport, health and education), critical centers for emergency response (hospitals, fire and police stations, etc.), housing, educational centers, food supply centers, etc. Identify the needs of affected persons through rapid assessments (initial stage of the emergency), and conduct quantification of damages, economic valuation and consolidation of information with detailed methodologies (later stages), in order to provide the necessary information for planning and managing the emergency, and the process of rehabilitation or early recovery.

**Lead Government Agency:** Department of Risk and Disaster Management

**Supporting Agencies:** MDAs

**TASK 5.6. COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**PURPOSE:** Coordinate effective, efficient, and timely humanitarian aid and support for response through international cooperation, according to the specific conditions of each cooperation agency, and the needs and requests for aid.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** It begins with the call for international aid, according to the needs established by the national authority. There are three differentiated cooperation options: (1) The Department of Foreign Affairs issues communications with the diplomatic missions and representations abroad, based on the requirements received from the extended multi-sector commission. Aid offers are registered in the Humanitarian Assistance Module of the National Emergency Operations Center. Once the support has arrived (be it from Seychellois abroad, other countries, or private entities), they are registered by Task 5.8 Resource Management and the lead of this activity at the National Emergency Operations Center. (2) The Department of Foreign Affairs, together with DRDM, summon the international community present in the country, through the UN Resident Coordinator for Seychelles, to inform about the situation and the need for aid. Cooperation agencies activate their technical and financial mechanisms. During the planning process, international agencies create links with authorities from different sectors to define the priority projects. The Humanitarian Assistance Module of the National EOC will be responsible for coordinating and recording aid and donations, be it financial, in human resources, or goods. (3) DRDM will issue the request for aid from international urban search and rescue (USAR) partners. DRDM requests INSARAG guide through the virtual OSOCC the presence of USAR teams. USAR teams confirm their activation; on the virtual OSOCC, this information includes itinerary and equipment characteristics. A reception center is installed by the first USAR team arriving in the country, with logistical support from the DRDM. Information on international cooperation is consolidated by the national EOC and serves both national authorities and international donors to guide decisions related to response, as well as for accountability.

**Lead Agency:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Supporting Agencies:** Department of Risk and Disaster Management

**TASK 5.7. SUBNATIONAL COORDINATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

**PURPOSE:** Ensure effective coordination and integration at subnational levels and with the private sector in order to meet the needs of the EOC/command post and provide a timely response to the emergency. Seek support from the entities responsible for critical infrastructure, key resources, other businesses and industries, and nongovernmental entities involved in response and recovery.

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** The appeal for national aid is initiated, according to the needs. Specific agreements or contracts are signed, if required, for the donation or acquisition of goods and/or services, with subsequent monitoring and compliance of the aid received.

**Lead Agency:** Department of Risk and Disaster Management

**Supporting Agencies:** Local government department, Seychelles Peoples Defence Force, Seychelles Police Force, Department of Finance, Department of Tourism

**TASK 5.8. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

**PURPOSE:** Determine the needs of the affected community and the agencies in charge of response and rehabilitation, according to the post-disaster damage assessment, comparing this information with the existing capacities, in order to determine the need to provide additional resources and establish different acquisition options (purchase, loans, agreements, contracts, and/or national or international appeals for aid).

**SCOPE/CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:** The process begins by evaluating requirements and available resources, through consolidation of information from the damages and needs assessment and the reports from the managers of each task, in order to determine the existing capacities, prioritize resources, and inform the relevant authorities about the gaps in appropriate attention of the affected community and the need for additional resources.

**Lead Government Agency:** Department of Risk and Disaster Management

**Supporting Agencies:** Department of Finance, Local government, Department of Tourism, Seychelles Trading Company Ltd, Red Cross Seychelles, Department of Tourism
# NATIONAL INTEGRATED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

## Responsible Matrix by Functional Areas and Task

### ANNEX II RESCUE AND SECURITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COORDINATING ENTITY – NATIONAL LEVEL</th>
<th>SEYCHELLES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE AGENCY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 CAT 1 DRDM Department of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 CAT 1 LGD Local Government Department</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 CAT 1 HCA Health Care Agency</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CAT 1 PHA Public Health Authority</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 CAT 1 PUC Public Utilities Corporation</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 CAT 1 RCSS Red Cross Society Seychelles</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 CAT 1 SFRSA Seychelles Fire and Rescue Service Agency</td>
<td>S L L S S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 CAT 1 SPDF Seychelles Peoples Defence Force</td>
<td>L S S S S S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 CAT 1 SPF Seychelles Police Force</td>
<td>S S L S L S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 CAT 1 FAD Family Affairs Department</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 CAT 1 MOECC-DOE MOECC - Department of Environment</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 CAT 1 Vicepresident Office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 CAT 1 DF Department of Finance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 CAT 2 DICT Department of Information and Communication Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 CAT 2 LWMA Landscape and Waste Management Agency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 CAT 2 MHILT Ministry of Habitat, Infrastructure and Land Transport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CAT 2 MOECC-CCED MOECC - Climate Change and Energy Department</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 CAT 2 MOEHRD Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 CAT 2 NBA National Biosecurity Agency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 CAT 2 NGOs Non -Governmental Organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 CAT 2 SAA Seychelles Agricultural Agency</td>
<td>S S S S S S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 CAT 2 SCAA Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 CAT 2 SIFCO Seychelles Interfaith Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 CAT 2 SLTA Seychelles Land Transport Agency</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 CAT 2 SMA Seychelles Meteorological Authority</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 CAT 2 SMSA Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration</td>
<td>L S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 CAT 2 SNPNA Seychelles National Parks Authority</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 CAT 2 SPA Seychelles Port Authority</td>
<td>S S S S S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 CAT 2 STC Seychelles Trading Company LTD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 CAT 2 ASP Agency for Social Protection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 CAT 2 SEYPEC Seychelles Petroleum Company</td>
<td>S S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 CAT 2 DOT Department of Tourism</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 CAT 2 AG Attorney General</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 CAT 2 MFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 CAT 2 IDC Islands Development Company Ltd</td>
<td>S S S S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 CAT 2 Cable and wireless Seychelles Ltd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 CAT 2 AIRTEL AIRTEL Seychelles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 CAT 2 INTELVISION Intelvision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

L: Leading response entity  S: Supporting entity
### ANNEX III HEALTH

#### COORDINATING ENTITY – NATIONAL LEVEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAT</th>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>National Level Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DRDM</td>
<td>Department of Risk and Disaster Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>LGD</td>
<td>Local Government Department</td>
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#### HEALTH CARE AGENCY/PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY

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L: Leading response entity  S: Supporting entity
# NATIONAL INTEGRATED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
## Responsible Matrix by Functional Areas and Task

### ANNEX IV HUMANITARIAN SERVICES

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L: Leading response entity  S: Supporting entity
# ANNEX V ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

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### ANNEX VI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#### NATIONAL INTEGRATED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Responsible Matrix by Functional Areas and Task

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<tr>
<td><strong>12</strong> CAT 2 SMA Seychelles Meteorological Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>13</strong> CAT 2 SMSA Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>14</strong> CAT 2 SNPA Seychelles National Parks Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15</strong> CAT 2 SPA Seychelles Port Authority</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16</strong> CAT 2 STC Seychelles Trading Company LTD</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>17</strong> CAT 2 ASP Agency for Social Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>18</strong> CAT 2 SEYPEC Seychelles Petroleum Company</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>19</strong> CAT 2 DOT Department of Tourism</td>
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<td><strong>20</strong> CAT 2 AG Attorney General</td>
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<td><strong>21</strong> CAT 2 MFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>22</strong> CAT 2 IDC Islands Development Company Ltd</td>
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<td><strong>23</strong> CAT 2 Cable and wireless Seychelles Ltd</td>
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<td><strong>24</strong> CAT 2 AIRTÉL AIRTÉL Seychelles</td>
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<td><strong>25</strong> CAT 2 INTELVISION Intevision</td>
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</table>

L: Leading response entity  S: Supporting entity